



Christmas in April is Saturday

Full details, along with
our annual salute to the
'02 Home/Garden show.

Special Section, Inside



Coleman Ave. Coalition – and
plenty of friends – 'spruce up the
avenue' and paint the town.

Community, Page 1B

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The Sea Coast Echo

Since 1892

VOL. 111, NO. 33 BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

WWW.SEACOASTECHO.COM

TWO SECTIONS, 22 PAGES

75 CENTS

**Thursday
April 25, 2002**

Waveland little league opening day parade

Waveland Little League will open its baseball season Saturday, April 27. A parade will leave from the Elwood Bourgeois ball field at 9 a.m. After the parade will be the opening ceremonies. All city officials will be invited to attend and throw out the first ball to begin the baseball season. Everyone invited.

Save Our Children to host 'chicken lunch'

Save Our Children is sponsoring a chicken lunch this Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 550 State St., Bay St. Louis. \$5 per plate. For more information, call 467-9586.

N. Bay 'Spring Fling'

North Bay Elementary PTO will be hosting a 'Spring Fling' Friday, 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be an auction (arts and crafts, subscriptions, gift certificates from local restaurants and lots of other gift ideas).

WHAT'S INSIDE

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Sports Pages 2-4B
Classified Pages 6-9B

Dilemma at DeLisle

.....
'Concerned' citizens protest outside DuPont
– say company is to blame for illnesses
.....



Members of the Mississippi Environmental Recovery Alliance (MERA) gather Wednesday for a march outside the DuPont DeLisle plant.
Echo staff photos
by Bennie Shallbetter

MERA members march outside plant during co. open house

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

It was like the 1960s all over again, only it was 2002 at Kiln DeLisle Road. Dozens of concerned DeLisle-area residents, who have formed an environmental action group, Mississippi Environmental Recovery Alliance, held a protest against what they say are toxins that are being released from the DuPont DeLisle Plant into the environment. An open house being held at the plant to improve community relations spurred the protest.

"I'm out here because I'm a concerned citizen," said Chris Kirkland of DeLisle. "I've never worked at the

DUPONT-PAGE 7A

B-W Task force busts meth lab

Two arrested; pre-cursors,
finished product confiscated

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

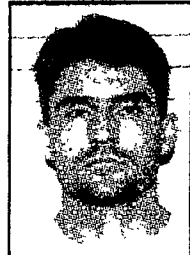
The Bay-Waveland Drug Task Force arrested two Waveland residents Friday in connection with a methamphetamine lab operated at 720 Tippen Street, Waveland, according to Waveland Police Chief Jimmy Varnell.

Varnell said, "A preliminary investigation by the drug task force enabled agents to secure a search warrant for the residence from Municipal Judge Frank Wittmann."

"Arrested were Lois Larose Knippers, 29, and James Earl Firth, Jr., 33, both of 720 Tippen Street. They were both charged with possession of precursors and manu-

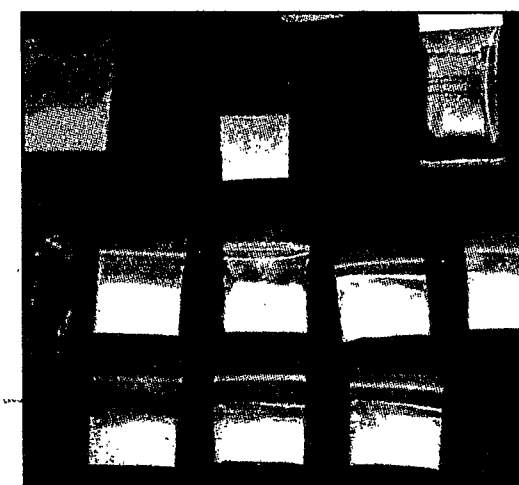


Lois Larose
Knippers



James Earl
Firth Jr.

METH-PAGE 7A



Photos courtesy of Waveland Police Chief James Varnell
10 grams of methamphetamine seized by officers of the Waveland Police Dept.

Chamber taps Williams as new director

ECHO STAFF
REPORT

The Hancock County Chamber of Commerce has selected a new executive director.

Chamber President Jody Compretta announced Tuesday that Bay St. Louis native Tish Haas Williams has accepted the position, effective May 2.

"The board made a commitment to find and hire the best person for the job,"



Williams

WILLIAMS-PAGE 7A

USM breaks ground on new space center facility

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Three trailers that the University of Southern Mississippi has called home since 1985 at their facilities at Stennis Space Center will soon be just a fond memory. USM revealed plans on Tuesday to expand existing

facilities at the Space Center and broke ground for the immediate construction of a \$3 million, 17,000 square foot building, which will house classrooms and laboratories for the university's master's and doctoral program in oceanography

USM-PAGE 7A



Echo staff photo by Bennie Shallbetter
The elite met to eat and greet Tuesday for groundbreaking ceremonies for USM's new facilities at Stennis Space Center.

A Salute To Secretaries

Thank You

Anna Bordelon Farm Bureau Insurance (Kila etc.) 11 Years 255-1133	Stacey Cuevas Farm Bureau Insurance (Kila etc.) 4 Years 255-1133	Jennifer George Farm Bureau Insurance (B.S.L. etc.) 2 Years 467-6327
Susan Lomonaco Felicia Craft Palmer State Farm Insurance 1 1/2 Years 467-7770	Bobbie Cassanova Felicia Craft Palmer State Farm Insurance 6 Mos. 467-7770	Debbie Mills Rick Bounds Auto Sales 5 Years 467-1511
Sue Boes Custom Countertops 10 Years 467-3395	De De Turcotte Guy Tire & Supply 8 Years 467-2222	Sandy Seymour-Necaise The Law Office of Pamela West 3 1/2 Years 466-2900
Mary Blount Jim Blount Floor Covering 10 Years 466-3444	Barbara Redding City of Bay St. Louis Mayor Eddie Favre 10 Years 467-9092	Lisa Planchard City of Waveland Mayor Tommy Longo 4 Years 467-4134
Julie Cannon Kelly Cannon State Farm Insurance 16 Years 467-2323	Kim Gorbach Kelly Cannon State Farm Insurance 7 Years 467-2323	Mary Ladner Kelly Cannon State Farm Insurance 3 Years 467-2323
Lisa Bell Mike Meyers State Farm Insurance 3 1/2 Years 467-5011	Johna Pitzer Mike Meyers State Farm Insurance 13 Years 467-5011	Misty Alison Mike Meyers State Farm Insurance 1 1/2 Years 467-5011
Linda Aimes Kelly Cannon State Farm Insurance 13 Years 467-2323		

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Hancock lands \$2.3 million in water funds

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

While up to 700 people wait for cleaner, safer water in Shoreline Park, Hancock County Monday officially received funding totaling \$2.3 million to extend its burgeoning water system to another 1,000 residents on the east side of state Hwy. 603.

U.S. Rep. Gene Taylor of Bay St. Louis, representatives of Sens. Trent Lott and Thad Cochran and members of the Hancock County Water and Sewer District gathered in front of District offices on U.S. Hwy. 90 to receive a large ceremonial check presented by Nick Walters, state director of rural development for the United States Department of Agriculture.

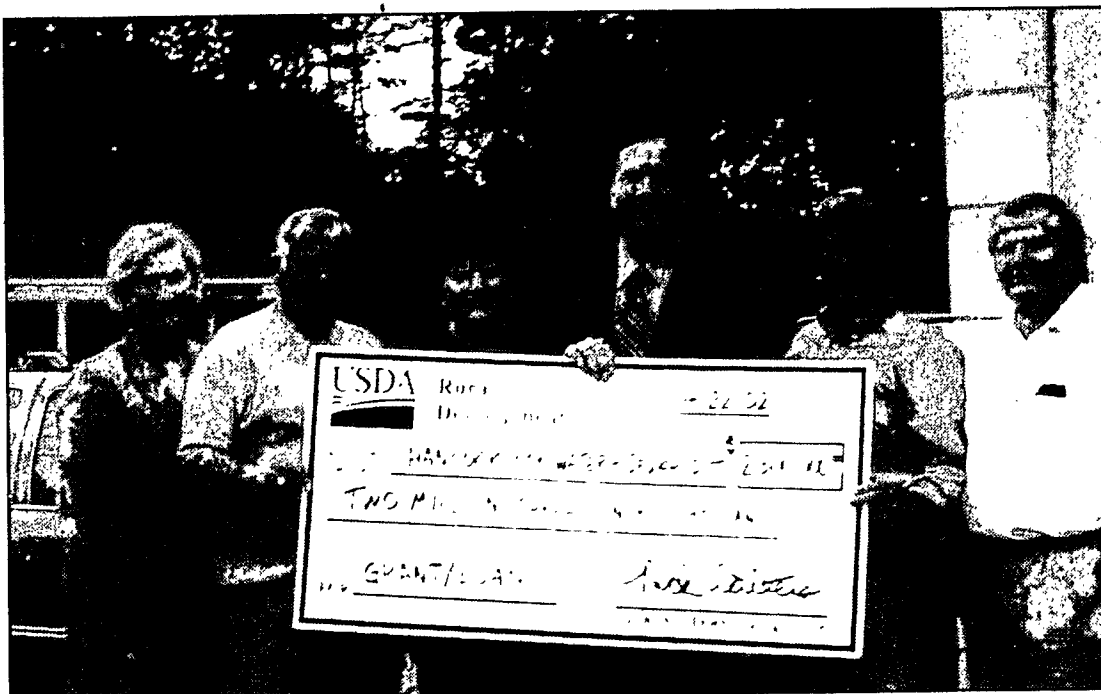
The announcement Hancock County's application for additional funding to extend its water system was approved was actually made in January, but officials at the ceremony used the presentation to point out the importance of good, clean water and the fierce competition that exists between cities and counties vying for funding.

Walters said requests for water system funding and wastewater system improvements across the state totaled \$135 million, but the state USDA had only \$34 million to allocate.

Because Mississippi is a largely rural and poor state, he said his office places top priority on applications seeking to improve an area's drinking water. He explained each application is based on several factors, including household income and the fact that poor soil conditions in Shoreline Park are contributing to failing water wells.

Walters said the USDA is the primary lender to water and wastewater systems across the state.

He said most grants allocated to different counties ranged from \$350,000 to



Aides to U.S. Sens. Thad Cochran and Trent Lott joined with members of the Hancock County Water and Sewer District Monday to accept the latest funding to extend the water system. Pictured are, from left, Suzanne Chase, aide to Sen. Cochran; district Chairman Al Smith; Myrtis Francis, aide to Sen. Lott; USDA State Director Nick Walters; U.S. Rep. Gene Taylor; and district Director Eddie Renz.

\$500,000. "Some water systems are already in place, and they just needed upgrades," he said.

However, Hancock County landed an outright grant of \$1,090,700 and a low-interest loan of \$1,209,300 for the second phase of its three-phase water project, Nelson said. (A third phase will bring water to Shoreline residents on the west side of Hwy. 603).

He credited Sens. Lott and Cochran and the Rep. Taylor for helping secure the grant and loan for Hancock County.

Walters explained Hancock's Water and Sewer District, like many others around the state, is a non-profit, and the users of the system are the actual owners.

While presenting the ceremonial check, Walters noted Monday was celebrated nationally as "Earth Day."

"What a great present for Earth Day," he said.

Taylor said he was grateful for the additional fund-

ing. "Every dollar we receive is another dollar we don't have to pass on to the consumer," said Taylor. He said the application process is tedious and competitive and he singled out his aide, Jerry Martin, for her work on the funding application.

The check comes at a time when the first 700 water customers in Shoreline Park are waiting to come on line, and the Hancock Water and Sewer District is looking for a new consulting and design engineer. Three separate contractors were involved in the \$1.2 million first-phase of the system, which involved laying 27 miles of pipe, drilling a 1000-foot deep well and constructing a 150-foot high elevated water tank.

The contractor building the 150,000-gallon elevated water tank behind the East Hancock Volunteer Fire Department on Chapman Road defaulted on the contract, delaying the project for more than a year.

On April 12, commissioners voted to fire Duke Levy

and Associates, alleging Levy had "materially breached" the contract. Commissioners also terminated contracts the District had with Levy for phase II and III of the water system.

Commissioners are negotiating with Compton Engineering to check out the initial construction, and test the water lines so the first 700 customers can begin to hook up to the system. They also will negotiate with Compton to review the Phase II design, so the project can be let out to bid, and to begin designs for Phase III.

District Chairman Al Smith predicted the second phase of construction will be less of a headache than the first stage.

"We've already got the nuts and bolts of the system in," said Smith. "Now, we'll be mostly laying more pipe."

Fire hydrants are also being installed as part of the project, and Commissioners predict eventually Shoreline residents will have insurance rates lowered.

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Chapel Hill Beachfront sponsors Sat. blood drive

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

If you want to save lives, win prizes, get a free t-shirt and tour the beautiful homes at Chapel Hill, then you need to donate blood at the first Chapel Hill Beachfront Community blood drive on Saturday, April 27.

The American Red Cross trailer will be an hand from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Chapel Hill model home, Lot #14. Chapel Hill is located on the corner of Hwy. 90 and Beach Blvd. in Bay St. Louis.

All blood types are needed, especially types O negative, B negative and O positive. Donors will be treated to snacks and will receive a blood donor t-shirt courtesy of Chapel Hill.

All blood donors are also eligible to sign up for door prizes donated by local businesses such as Annie's Restaurant, Court Street Station, North Beach Interiors, Fire Dog Saloon, Rickey's Restaurant, and Carole & Mary's Olde Town Restaurant and Catering.

Charlotte Whitney and the Lighthouse Realty team will take you on a private tour of Chapel Hill in the new Global Electric Motorcar where you can

visit the private, single-family detached homes.

The local business that sends in the most donors to give blood will be presented with the "Top Dog Blood Hound Award" from the American Red Cross.

Blood supplies along the Gulf Coast continue to fall short of the five- to seven-day-supply needed by the Red Cross to meet the needs of area patients.

Types O positive and O negative have fallen below a one-day supply. Blood donations from the general public are critical to the successful treatment of accident and burn victims, cancer, leukemia and sickle cell patients and surgical patients.

Blood donors are encouraged to give their life-saving blood today and not wait for an emergency to happen.

Blood is a perishable product, with a shelf life of 42 days and must be constantly replenished. About 375 to 400 units of blood are used every day throughout the Gulf Coast Region.

People can give blood every 56 days, and a blood transfusion is needed every two seconds in the United States.

To make an appointment

to donate at Chapel Hill or for more information about this blood drive, call Chapel

Hill at 467-9191 or the American Red Cross at 896-2217.

Thank You

In celebration of National Volunteer Month,
Hancock Medical Center recognizes the
following members of the HMC Volunteer Services
for their dedicated service

Nick Ascani
Beulah Benigno
Mildred Bougere
Randolph C. Bourgeois
Theresa Bourgeois
Joan Breden
Ginny Briley
Nolin Briley
Rochelle Buchanan
Betty Cutler
LaRose Eddy
Nancy Gaskill
Mary Gilmore
Bobbie Goodell
Charlotte Gray

Madeline Greenfield
Gerri Guidroz
Dot Hamann
Doris Hauer
Joan Howard
Polly Justice
Beverly Kelly
Betty Kielty
Edna Kleinpeter
Gloria Landry
Bea Lorenzen
Lillian Lott
Beverly Mahe
Billie Jean Niver
Mamie O'Quinn

Betty O'Toole
Frank Palermo
Harriet Reightler
Anthony Sconza
Elaine Sconza
Alice Seckso
Lorraine Smith
Margaret Smith
Majorie Thomson
Kitty Thompson
Billie Tudury
Donald Villarrubia
Margie Welsh
Robert Wyatt
Dot Zimmerman

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Dorothy Bielstein
Tootsie Bookhardt
Betty Burnett
Ann Cuevas

Edith Dantagnan
Gertrude Hatton
Gertrude Helwig
Irene Johnston
Joann Lagasse

Patricia Moore
Alvina Nichols
Kathleen Speed
Alice Winchester

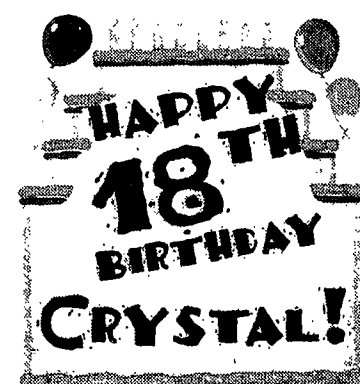
Oyster harvest area reopens

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources has announced the reopening of Area II "D" Conditionally Approved Waters to the harvest of oysters, effective Wednesday, April 24.

Area II "D" Conditionally Approved Waters, including the public oyster reefs in St. Louis Bay between the Highway 90 Bridge and the CSX Railroad Bridge.

For more information on open and closed areas, call the DMR's 24-hour Oyster

Information Hotline at (228) 374-5167 or 1-800-385-5902.

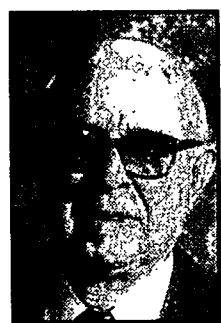


149 Drinkwater Blvd. • Bay St. Louis • 467-8600 • www.hmc.org

OPINION

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2002

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

All 'beaned' out, but it's for a very good cause

I guess I can say I am 'all beaned and corn-breaded out' following Tuesday's Red Beans & Rice Cook-Off.

It was a great fund raiser for the American Cancer Society, and general chairman Jimmie Ladner, Jr. and all of his volunteers and participants need to be commended on a great job.

This was Jimmie's second year as chairman, and he announced that Bay St. Louis Mayor Eddie Favre will be next year's general chairman.

Mayor Favre and his crew are always winners, and he told me that he will be turning the cooking over next year to department heads.

Congratulations to the winners of the awards.

The competition gets stronger and stronger each year.

There were 33 entries, and everyone appeared to have had a great time.

The general public did their thing, too, as hundreds made the cook-off their lunch break on Monday.

I am already looking forward to next year's cook-off.

Saturday is a very

important day. It will be Christmas in April Hancock County Project Day.

The event this year is co-chaired by Becky Rotundo and Maurice Singleton.

Last year there were more than 100 people who volunteered to scrape, paint, rake, mow, rebuild and did what was generally needed to be done to six homes.

The project is a one-day blitz to rehabilitate/renovate private homes of the elderly, handicapped or disabled persons within our community. Businesses, civic organizations, groups and individuals donate materials and funds to purchase necessary materials.

I know Hancock Medical Center assists by making sure participants have a good lunch on that work day.

The homes have been selected by a committee for this year's project, and I have been told some more man power and supplies can help.

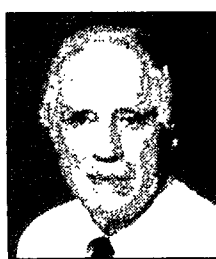
For further information, contact Rotundo at 228-688-5328, or Singleton at 228-466-0402.

'It will become open warfare,' says Asst. AG

"It will become open warfare for spending by political special interests in Mississippi elections, if this is allowed to stand."

So said Asst. Atty. Gen. Hunt Cole, who is AG Mike Moore's lead guy in battling the powerful U.S. Chamber of Commerce in federal court to stop the nation's biggest business lobby organization from demolishing Mississippi's 1999 campaign finance disclosure law.

As of April 5, under an



Eyes on Mississippi

By Bill Minor

incredible ruling by a three-judge federal court panel, little ole Mississippi is losing and the gargantuan, Washington-based U.S. Chamber, is winning.

This week, Moore and Cole asked the full U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans to review and overturn the outrageous three-judge ruling that gave the Chamber carte blanche not to disclose to Secretary of State Eric Clark names, sources and amounts it spent trying to

elect four state Supreme Court candidates in our 2000 elections.

If the U.S. Chamber can get away with denying Mississippians their right to know who is putting up money, how much and how it is spending money to influence outcome of our state elections, then, as Hunt Cole says, "it will be open season" for other groups to do the same.

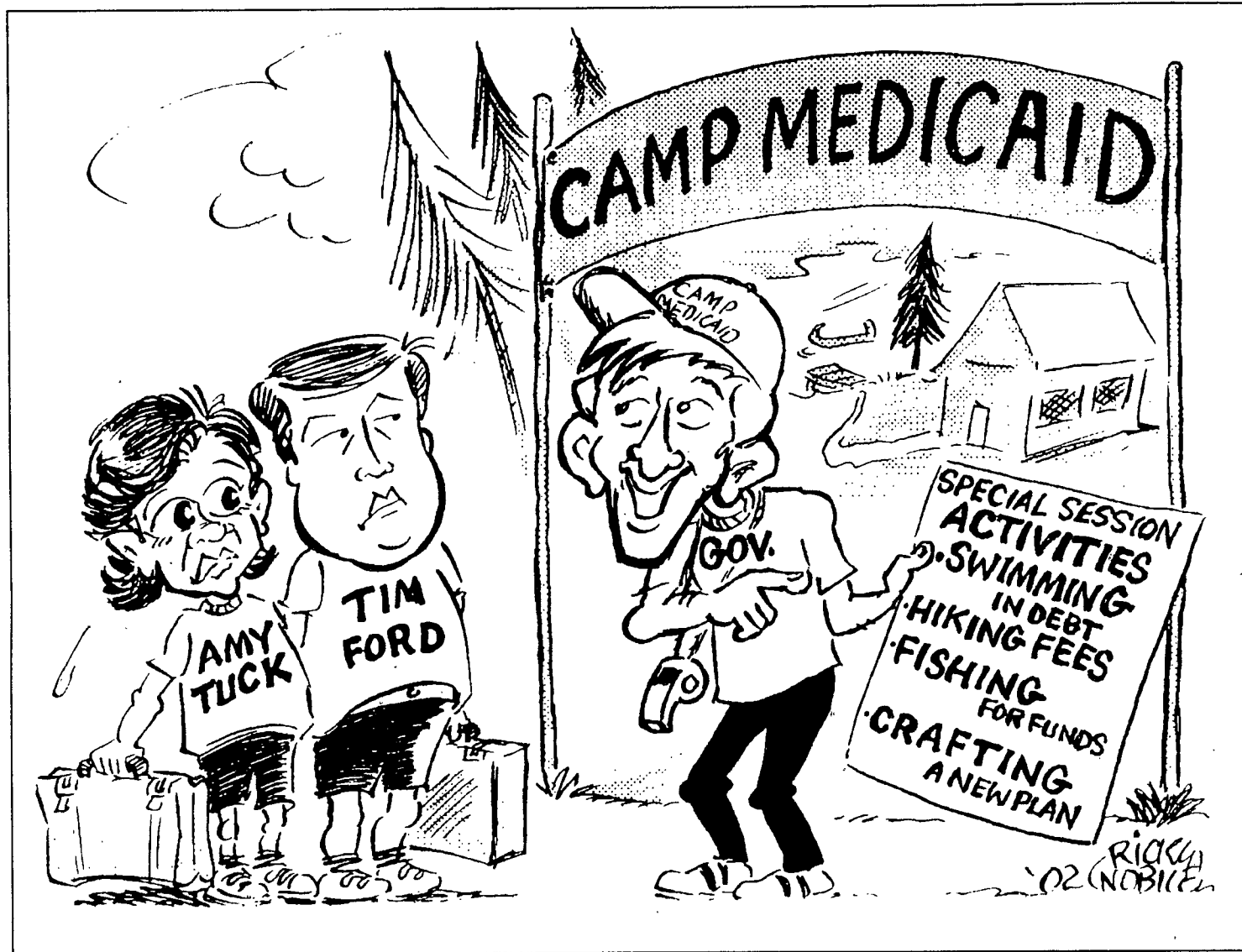
Unprecedented in Mississippi politics was the incursion two years ago by the Washington-based U.S. Chamber, the world's biggest business organization, into this state's judicial races, pumping an estimated \$1 million into the fall

election campaign in a TV ad blitz, as well as mailed literature, in an attempt to elect its four choices for Supreme Court judgeships.

The barrage of prime-time political ads suddenly started appearing on our television sets during the last month of Supreme Court campaign, touting the virtues of the candidate who was pictured in the ad. Only a tiny scroll at the bottom indicated the U.S. Chamber sponsored them.

Alleged to have been unsolicited, the TV spots pushed the candidacies of then Chief Justice Lenore Prather and Justice Kay

MINOR--PAGE 5A



Save our courthouse trees

Dear Editor:
I was dismayed to read of the plans to destroy our beautiful Hancock County Courthouse Park in favor of a parking lot. When I learned of the plans to cut down all of the trees around our beautiful courthouse, I was reminded of two of our country's most brilliant men who had this to say about trees:

"The best friend on earth of man is the tree. When we use the tree respectfully and economically, we have one of the greatest resources of the earth." Frank Lloyd Wright

"Trees are architecture. They are as interesting as any building." Frank Gehry

To destroy every tree on the courthouse grounds is to destroy the entire flavor and loveliness of downtown Bay St. Louis. I cannot believe that our very own Board of Supervisors has approved such a plan.

A better plan would be to leave those trees which are not affecting the courthouse foundation in place and to purchase the old Post Office Building on Main Street. This would give the city ample additional parking as well as much-needed space for our growing Hancock County government.

Respectfully,
Pamela M. West
Bay St. Louis

'Angels' on call at Hancock Medical Center 24-7

Dear Editor,
It's easy to overlook people in our everyday lives, those people who give their time, dedication and skills with no thought of compensation, no expectation of recognition or reward.

Some people do good things, because good things need to be done.

I'm talking about the people in our medical profession emergency units, from 911 to the maintenance man at the hospital.

Everyone at Hancock

Medical Center has always been extra good to me.

Also the special Christian men and women who visit the hospital to pray with you.

The nurse who comes to the house.

I would like to recognize and praise them - they do a great job - to let them know they are appreciated. To me they are guardian angels.

From my heart,
Barbara Sonnier
(Ms. Bobbie)
Pearlington

Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



Cat and Deer islands now protected by U.S.

BY U.S. REP.
GENE TAYLOR

This spring, Mississippians can look out at the Sound with a little more peace of mind. Why? Because we know that years from now the view from our beaches won't be much different.

The houses along the highway may change, and the casinos probably won't look the same either.

But the green tops of trees on Cat Island miles off shore will always be visible on a clear day, and the white beaches and greenery of Deer Island will always

be within reach. Recently half of the 2,100-acre Cat Island was purchased for the National Park Service for \$13 million.



Taylor

On April 29, 2002, the official signing for Cat Island will take place.

This means that the island is a federal park and will be patrolled by park rangers.

The Trust for Public Land is purchasing the island for the Park Service, which will in turn pay the trust back over several years. The entire purchase is estimated to be

TAYLOR--PAGE 5A

The Sea Coast Echo

USPS 487-100

Published Thursday and Sunday each week at 124 Court Street, Bay St. Louis, MS. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Sea Coast Echo, P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009. Periodical postage paid at Bay St. Louis, MS.

Phone (228) 467-5474



James R. (Randy) Ponder, Editor and Publisher
Geoff Belcher, News Editor
Rita Breun, Circulation Manager
Michael Benson, Production Manager
Ellis C. Cuevas, Publisher Emeritus

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Minor -- full-scale war

Continued from Page 4A

Cobb in the Northern District, Justice Jim Smith in the Central, and Keith Starrett who was opposing Justice Oliver Diaz in the Southern District.

To her credit, Lenore Prather not only disavowed the ads, but publicly demanded the U.S. Chamber stop airing them. None of the others, however, followed suit.

The idea that no group down here knew beforehand that the U.S. Chamber was preparing the ads in their state-of-the-art studio in Washington and buying air time in Mississippi is disingenuous.

One logical suspect, the Mississippi Economic Council, which in effect is the state counterpart of the U.S. Chamber, was not the culprit.

In fact, MEC President Blake Wilson turned down the offer and advised the national Chamber it was a bad idea. He told them to look elsewhere for a local

contact.

But any fool could plainly see when they started appearing, that the TV ads were endorsements for voters to elect each of the four candidates to Mississippi's highest court. Amazingly, the Chamber insisted they were only "issue" ads, and because they did not use the magic words "vote for" anyone they were exempt from the state's campaign law under the First Amendment.

U.S. District Judge Henry T. Wingate in Jackson didn't buy the Chamber's argument.

He ruled November 2, 2000 that the ads were "thinly veiled exhortations" to vote for the four candidates and declared that the Chamber had to abide by Mississippi's campaign finance disclosure law.

The Chamber had appealed Wingate's order to the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals and it was assigned to a three-judge panel,

headed by Appeals Court member Grady Jolly.

He wrote the decision overruling Judge Wingate and siding with the Chamber's contention that the ads were exempt from Mississippi's disclosure law under the First Amendment.

Jolly's admission in the three-court opinion that "we recognize that the result we reach in this case may be counterintuitive to a common-sense understanding of the message conveyed by the television political advertisements" sets a new record for incredulity.

Such logic is befitting of a Justice of the Peace I once knew down in a Mississippi backwoods county.

The JP had before him a farmer charged by a game warden with head-lighting a brace of buckshot-slain rabbits found laid out in the bed of the farmer's pickup truck.

When the farmer claimed a rare breed of milk-sucking

rabbits had become a menace to dairy herds thereabouts and that he was just doing his duty to dispatch the varmints, the JP had heard enough. "Not guilty," he sang out, as the crowd of locals cheered.

Now, with the help of the federal judiciary, is the nation's biggest business lobby, long accustomed to dangling lawmakers in Congress as puppets, going to get away with crushing this little state's noble attempt on its own to put a handle on political campaign financing?

This writer knows something about the meaning and sacredness of the First Amendment, free speech and free press. But to extend that sacred right into the realm of paid political advertising, then let fat-cat special interests use it to spend unlimited amounts of money--and not even report it--is a desecration of free speech.

As fellow Mississippi

columnist Charles Mitchell recently observed, the federal courts these days seem to be making more laws than our own lawmakers. Once upon a time, Mississippi

state laws that deprived black people of their civil rights deserved to be struck down.

But our campaign finance law doesn't.

Near New Orleans, Near Mobile, Near Perfect!



Charlotte Whynes

Lighthouse
REALTY, LLC

10008 Highway 603
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Taylor -- come to the islands

Continued from Page 4A

around \$25 million.

Earlier this month Governor Musgrove signed the bill that would allow the state to buy Deer Island. In November the U.S. Congress approved \$3.8 million for the purchase of Deer Island to establish a state park.

With the governor's signature now Mississippi has sealed the future of Deer Island and made the efforts of so many individuals and organizations worthwhile.

Deer Island is being purchased by the approved federal money and the issuance of \$10 million in General Obligation bonds from the state.

Our intentions with Deer Island go beyond just its purchase.

The island has lost 300 to 400 acres on its east end over the years.

With the cooperation of the Army Corps of Engineers we hope to use sand from dredging projects to replenish this lost land.

Presently, there are plans to use sand from the dredging of the Biloxi Ship Channel for this purpose. Our goal is not just to preserve the island by keeping it from being developed, but to halt the erosion process and restore what has been lost.

These barrier islands not

only hold sentimental value for many people on the Coast, but they serve as a natural first line of defense against inclement weather and especially hurricanes.

These islands are also essential to the formation of our Mississippi Sound whose waters are home to much of the aquatic wildlife that drives our seafood industry.

Now that these islands have been acquired by the state and federal governments, we have a new responsibility for them. It is up to us to keep these islands clean.

We have to keep an eye out for litter and not become

complacent about trash on our new beaches.

Neither of these purchases could have been possible without the cooperation of several different people and organizations.

Senators Thad Cochran and Trent Lott, coastal state legislators, Secretary of State Eric Clark, the Nature Conservancy, Department of Marine Resources, the Trust for Public Land, George Schloegel and the Boddie and Sanders families have each been instrumental in acquiring one or both of these islands. I would like to thank them all for their efforts.

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Power struggle apparent at Casino World

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

The woman in charge of what might turn out to be a casino resort destination off the south Diamondhead exit of Interstate 10 admits she is under siege.

But, Deborah Vitale, president and chief administrative officer of Europa Cruises Corp., doesn't sound like a person who will go quietly into the night.

Europa's wholly-owned subsidiary, Casino World, Inc., owns 404-acres in Hancock County where it plans to build a casino, resort hotel with retail shops, entertainment complex, RV park and other attractions to make travelers on the high-volume interstate want to stop and stay awhile.

Vitale was reacting to a petition filed by two members of the four-member Europa Board of Directors, John R. Duber and James E. Illius filed paperwork with the Securities and Exchange

Commission seeking to reconstitute the Board.

Duber and Illius, who call themselves heads of the "Concerned Committee of Europa Stockholders," wants the SEC to give them permission to poll stockholders on replacing Vitale with James Rafferty. Rafferty is a former senior vice president of Harvey's Casino Resorts.

Earlier this month, Vitale supported Europa stockholder Frank E. Williams Jr., in his petition to the SEC seeking to poll stockholders and oust Duber from the Board. The individual petitions were filed April 9 and 11, and the SEC sometimes decides on takeover issues in as little as 10 days.

Williams claims Duber has blocked an annual meeting of stockholders, and with it, the election of a Board of Directors.

"What this means is either I'm going to remove John Duber or he's going to remove me," Vitale admitted. Duber and Illius claim

Vitale does not have the required experience needed to develop, build, design and operate a waterfront casino. They said Rafferty is a "seasoned developer and manager."

Vitale scoffs at the statement. "He was at-best one of the vice president of Harvey's," she said. Vitale said her plans are to market, develop and build the Casino World project as a "complete resort destination for adults and families, not just a casino." She said Europa Cruises Corp., "is not a casino company. It is a company that used to own casino boats."

She said Rafferty is bringing nothing to the bargaining table. "He's not coming to the project with any investment, any stock. He wants to be president in return for nothing. He's asking me to turn over about \$2.5 million in assets and property that is worth about \$42 million. I don't think so," she added. Last week, Vitale announced Europa was

negotiating with renown architect Leo A. Daly of Las Vegas as the lead architectural/engineering firm to design the Casino World resort.

The firm's leading architect is Frances Xavier Dumont, who was responsible for the design of the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort in Atlantic City, N.J. recognized as one of the most palatial casinos in the country.

She also confirmed she plans to hire experts in marketing, entertainment, and casino operations to put together a complete master plan for development.

Europa has all the permits necessary to begin construction. Just last week, the Mississippi Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal by environmentalists and citizen groups. The court ruled the state Commission on Marine Resources acted within its authority when it issued Europa its permit to build.



The Diamondhead Garden Club has chosen Ray and Pat Roberttson's home at 8705 Diamondhead Dr. West for the May Residential Garden of the Month.



The Diamondhead Garden Club has chosen Ray and Universal Storage for the May Commercial Garden of the Month.

Cancer Society seeks community support for Hancock County 'Relay for Life' on May 10

The American Cancer Society and its 3 million volunteers are working diligently in communities like Hancock County to reduce the threat of cancer.

Your help is needed to make the hope of conquering cancer a reality by taking part in Relay For Life, the American Cancer Society's national signature activity on May 10 at Hancock Medical Center's walking track. The event will last from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Relay For Life is an overnight fund-raising event filled with activities, food and community spirit. Last year, 3,000 communities nationwide participated in Relay For Life and their efforts raised more than \$212 million, making this the largest fund-raiser in the United States.

Every penny, dime and dollar raised at Relay For Life offers hope to everyone who has been or will be touched by this disease and brings us one step closer to a cancer-free tomorrow.

Local cancer survivors will kick off the event by walking the first lap as a

symbol of their victory over cancer. At 9:30 p.m., luminaria lining the track, will be lit in honor of those fighting cancer and to remember those who have lost the battle.

Organizations, businesses, clubs and families around Hancock County have formed teams for the event. Teams and event participants will enjoy a variety of food and entertainment throughout the night.

"From a space walk and dunking booth to rock and gospel music, there is something for everyone," said John Baxter, chairman for Relay For Life in Hancock County. "We really encourage everyone to come out and join the fight to end cancer."

Specifically, the entertainment for the evening will include Jerry Fisher, Bo & Dee, a gospel choir, Arabesque dance team, and all sorts of games.

The 8.9 million cancer survivors alive today, along with their families and friends, thank you for contributing to the fight. This year in the United States, an estimated 1.2 million

people will be diagnosed with cancer. Additionally, the disease will kill approximately 552,000 Americans — that means 1,500 people will die of cancer each day.

About 14,400 people are expected to be diagnosed with cancer in Mississippi this year alone. Together we can make a difference.

For more information about Relay For Life or cancer, contact the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or www.cancer.org.

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TOPS 233

TOPS MS 233 met Thursday April 23 at the Waveland Methodist Church on Vacation Lane and Central Avenue.

Best loser for the week was Wenda with 4 pounds. There were 11 members present. The gift and incentive were won by Wenda.

At SRD 2001, the chapter received some awards. The Perfect Attendance Award for the year was won by Pat, Charlotte and Judy. TOPS 233 meets every Thursday at the Waveland Methodist Church. Weigh-ins 5-6 p.m. with the meeting to follow. Anyone interested in losing weight the sensible way is welcome to visit the TOPS 233 Chapter. Call Wenda at 467-1695.

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USM -- groundbreaking

and hydrography.

NASA officials, Navy and NOAA representatives, state officials and representatives from most of the universities eight campuses were among those to attend the ceremony and luncheon that followed.

USM's marine science program at Stennis was founded in 1985 by oceanographer Dr. George Knauer and his wife Linda.

At the time, Knauer was the only faculty member. Now the department has 36 full-time faculty and staff members.

"This is a strong partnership between USM and the Navy," said USM

Department of Marine Sciences Chair Dr. Dennis Wiesenburg. "We have more oceanographers here (at Stennis) than anywhere in the world, and they can walk over here and take classes."

About 22 employees from the Naval Oceanographic Office at Stennis have trained at the USM center and 11 more are about to graduate, said Captain Phil Renaud, Commanding Officer of the office.

Currently, about 35 students are enrolled in the program said Wiesenburg, with 11 enrolled in the doctoral program.

"Our goal is to become

"the" university at Stennis," said Wiesenburg. "Currently, we are the only university with faculty stationed at the Space Center, though several other universities do hold classes here. We have a real commitment here."

"This program is important to the Navy," said RDML Thomas Q. Donaldson V, Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command. "There is nothing better than success to build on and we couldn't have done it with out USM's training program. If you are not changing, you are not improving; if you are not

Continued from Page 1A

improving you are left behind.

Oceanography is the study of ocean processes that may affect our lives in a variety of ways including effects on climate, weather, fisheries and recreation. Hydrography is the study of the mapping, charting, measurement, description, and charting of the seafloor.

Water covers about 2/3 of the earth, but only a tiny portion of ocean surfaces have been mapped. About 50 percent of the earth's population lives near the coasts, making exploration of the earth's oceans an important part of understanding our world.

DuPont -- protest

Continued from Page 1A

plant, but I have friends who do. I am concerned about them, but mainly I am concerned about the kids, all the little kids."

"I'm a resident of the area. In fact I live about a mile from here," said John Maynard. "They tested my water and said it was safe to drink, but when we pulled our filter out after three months and tested that, it had 20 to 30 times the heavy metal content that was safe. Something has to be done."

There would be a lot more people out here said another source, "but we didn't know about the open house till the last minute.

What is more important, jobs or lives?"

"There are a lot of people sick out here, 60 people with cancer right around our house and something is wrong," said George Wise, who was accompanied by his wife Judy.

Kathleen Smiley, an attorney who is representing what is now almost 2,000 area residents in a \$3 billion lawsuit against the plant and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality was present at the march.

"I think that it's great that the neighbors have formed together for M.E.R.A.," she said.

"We've been trying to get something going like this for a long time," said M.E.R.A. spokeswoman Deborah Dauner. "And now it's really taking off. Our mission is responsibility and accountability for disposal practices of industrial waste, both in the past and in the present."

M.E.R.A. is a grassroots political action group formed in the Kiln/DeLisle/Pass Christian/Bay St. Louis area. The group believes that "everyone has the right to a safe and healthy environment despite their economic standing," according

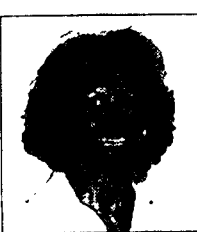
to a group newsletter.

"There is no membership to become involved and you don't have to be part of the proposed lawsuit to join in, only concerned," said Dauner.

If you are interested in the groups activities you may call Dauner at 255-9865.

DuPont officials have repeatedly said they follow all state and federal guidelines, and that the plant in no way is having a negative effect on the environment. All potentially hazardous wastes are disposed of according to EPA and DEQ guidelines, officials say.

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Meth

Continued from Page 1A

facturing methamphetamine and were held in the Hancock County Criminal Justice Facility with bonds set at \$55,000 each," Varnell said.

Knippers bonded out Tuesday evening, while Firth was still in jail Wednesday morning.

Varnell reported also that Knippers had an Ocean Springs address, and Firth had a Lucedale address on his Mississippi driver's license.

Bay-Waveland Narcotics Task Force Agents Laura Stepro, (Waveland Police Department) and Agent Ian Estorffe, (Bay St. Louis Police Department), along with the Drug Enforcement Agency are in charge of the case.

In addition to the task force agents, Chief Varnell and Waveland Patrolmen

Glen Volkman, Eddie Peterson and Lt. Mike Prendergast assisted in serving the warrant.

Chief Varnell and Bay Police Chief Frank McNeil, who are heading the new Bay-Waveland Task Force, request all residents who suspect possible drug activities in their neighborhoods to please call.

The task force is headquartered at the Waveland Police Department, and the number is 467-3669. The Bay Police Department's number is 467-9221.

Varnell said, "All information will be checked out by the drug task force. We depend on information from the general public to help us curtail drug activities within our communities. All information provided will be kept confidential."

Williams

Continued from Page 1A

Compretta said in a statement released Tuesday. "We knew we wanted someone who can take this organization to the next level. With the support of chamber members and this board, Tish Williams will make this happen."

"She has the experience we need and, as a native Hancock Countian, she has a sincere commitment to this community."

Williams is the daughter of Judge Michael Haas Sr. (ret.) and Myrt Haas. She graduated from Our Lady Academy in 1976 and received a bachelor of arts degree in journalism in 1980 from the University of Mississippi.

She has more than 20 years experience in marketing, fundraising and non-profit management.

Recently, she moved back to Bay St. Louis with her husband George and their five-year-old twin daughters, Georgia and Patricia.

"I can think of no greater privilege than to serve a community I care so much about ...," Williams said Tuesday in a prepared statement. "In Hancock County, we have all the resources we need to make this area one of the most prosperous communities in this region. Already, we are one of the fastest-growing communities in the state."

"As executive director of the chamber, I look forward to working with businesses and governmental leaders to promote and protect the economic, civic and social well-being of Hancock County. I consider it my duty and privilege."

Fayard reunion

The ninth annual reunion of descendants of Pierre "Peter" Fayard and Eleanor Westbrooke and Estelle Favre will be Sunday, June 9 at Buccaneer State Park, Beach Boulevard, Waveland. "Bring old photos and family memorabilia for show and tell as well as a picnic lunch, drinks and lawn chairs," said spokesman R. L. Fayard. Contact Fayard at 2802 Ryder Avenue, Pascagoula,

MS 39567-1112, 228-769-9077 or LaLancette@prodigy.net.

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Obituaries

OSCAR L. BOND
MELBA FARLOW
BONNIE GUARDIA
BAYLIE HATTAWAY
F. LOMBARDO, SR.
NANCY STOUFFLET
EVELYN YOUNG

OSCAR L. BOND
 Lt. Col. Oscar L. Bond, age unavailable, of Pass Christian, died Sunday, April 21, 2001, in Missouri Valley, Iowa.

Services are pending at Pass Road Chapel of Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Homes in Biloxi.

MELBA FARLOW
 Melba C. Farlow, 84, of the Standard community, died Saturday, April 20, 2002, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Farlow was a native of the Standard community and was a resident of Gulfport most of her life. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Terry Farlow; her parents, Nicholas S. and Callie Cuevas; two sons, Edsel Shaw and Garland Shaw; three sisters, Vernie Padgett, Catherine Necaise and Joyce Warden; and three brothers, Hollen Cuevas, Carl Cuevas and Jason Cuevas.

Survivors include a son, Darell Shaw of Spring, Texas; three sisters, Marlyn Alston of Gulfport, Doris Hinton of Jackson and Dorothy Jean Ussery of Gatesville, Texas; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday at Riemann Memorial Funeral

Home, US-49 North. Interment was in Finley Cemetery.

BONNIE GUARDIA
 Bonnie Jane Riddle Guardia, 85, of Pass Christian, died Thursday, April 18, 2002, in Pass Christian.

Mrs. Guardia was a native of Buncombe County, N.C. and a Baptist.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Otis J. Guardia Sr.; her parents, Willard and Zetta Smith Riddle; four brothers, Gay Bartley Riddle, Harvey Avery Riddle, Clem Grayson Riddle and William Leonard Riddle; six sister, Pansy Mae Crowder, Nellie Clyde Fairchild, Bertie Rosie Lee Hensley, Ada Fisher, Elizabeth Riddle and Donnie Bryant.

Survivors include sons Otis J. Guardia Jr. of Moline, Ill., Clyde Guardia of Sillis, Ill., and Glen Guardia of Pass Christian; and daughters Patricia Ladner, Wilma Dubuisson, Doris Ladner and Sandra Ladner, all of Pass Christian; sisters Sada Riddle, Kathleen Riddle and Ruth Anderson, all of Weaverville, N.C.; 13 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild.

Visitation was Sunday evening at Riemann Funeral Home in Pass Christian. Services were conducted Monday at St. Stephen Catholic Church followed by burial in St. Joseph Cemetery.

The family prefers memorials to Memorial Hospice, P. O. Box 1810,

Gulfport, MS 39502.

BAYLIE HATTAWAY
 Baylie Michelle Hattaway, 15 months, of Kiln, died Friday, April 19, 2002, in New Orleans.

Baylie was a Catholic.

Survivors include her mother, Melissa Varnado of Kiln; her father, Justin Hattaway of Colorado Springs, Colo.; grandparents Deborah Hilton of Colorado Springs, Nathan and Pam Varnado of Picayune, Rebecca Hattaway of Livermore, Calif., and Jimmy Hattaway of Calhan, Colo.; and great-grandparents Marlene and Gilbert Smith of Kiln, Preston Varnado of Crossroads, D.C. and Bonnie Hattaway of Calahan, Colo., and Al and Mary Hoppe of Crestview, Ill.

Visitation was Sunday evening at White Funeral Home Chapel in Poplarville. Services were conducted Monday at the funeral home chapel followed by burial in Odom Cemetery.

F. LOMBARDO, SR.
 Francis Joseph Lombardo, Sr., 74, of Clermont Harbor, died Saturday, April 20, 2002, in Gulfport.

Mr. Lombardo was a native of Mount Carmel, Pa. and a resident of New Orleans before moving to Clermont Harbor 21 years ago. He was a member of St. Ann Catholic Church in Clermont Harbor and was a veteran of the United States Army serving in Korea and World War II, where he received a Victory Medal.

He was a member of the American Legion Post 77, Waveland, International Longshoremen Association Local 1418, and the 11th Ward Social Club in New Orleans.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Zoea Ella Lombardo; his parents, Vincent and Thomasina Viangelo Lombardo; and brothers Agustin, Thomas and Auggie Lombardo.

Survivors include sons Frank J. Lombardo, Jr. of Clermont Harbor, Thomas Brown of Richland, Miss., and Bruce Brown of Lumberton; daughters Roselyn Desrochers of Clermont Harbor and Deborah Downey of Bay St. Louis; brothers Peter Lombardo of Chalmette, John Lombardo of Baltimore, Md., and Vincent Lombardo of Marietta, Fla.; 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Wednesday at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis followed by a prayer service and graveside service in Biloxi National Cemetery.

NANCY STOUFFLET
 Nancy Ann Stoufflet, 46, of Gulfport, died Tuesday, April 23, 2002, in Gulfport.

Services are pending at Riemann Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.

EVELYN YOUNG
 Evelyn O. Young, 94, of Bay St. Louis, died Tuesday, April 23, 2002.

Services are pending at Riemann Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.

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Pass pier will double in size

BY ED LEFOMA
 Staff Writer

Pass Christian's Board of Aldermen has awarded a contract to more than double the size of the fishing pier on the west side of the municipal harbor and build five new boat slips.

Consulting engineer John Campton of Garner Russell and Associates, reviewed six bids received on the project, and recommended awarding the job to Anchor Services and Sales of Long Beach.

Campton reported to a recessed meeting of the mayor and board of aldermen April 16 the bid submitted by Anchor was \$153,969, the lowest of those received.

"The bid is \$13,019 or 9.2 percent above our final esti-

mates, but \$21,031 or 12 percent under the original budget of \$175,000, said Campton. "There are ample Tidelands Grant funds on deposit to cover this project, as well as the East Bulkhead project, which is now under construction," he added.

The pier on the west side of the harbor will be extended at a 45-degree angle to an additional 150 feet. It would include another covered pavilion, Campton said. Five new slips will be added inside the harbor between Piers 2 and 3 to accommodate charter vessels.

Campton said he expected work to begin soon, with the project expected to be completed in three to four months.

He said the work will begin while another contractor works simultaneously to replace the sinking east wall of the harbor.

GM&R Construction of Waveland has that contract, worth about \$1.3 million. The city is using a combination of Tidelands Funds and

state grants to finance the restoration.

In other business, aldermen approved Police Chief John Dubuisson's request to purchase four new fully-equipped Ford Crown Victoria police vehicles for a total \$90,524.66.

Dubuisson told the Mayor and Aldermen he planned to request money for the vehicles in next year's budget. "But, after speaking with our Comptroller (Janet Dudding), she feels that now would be a good time to purchase these vehicles...because the interest rate is at an optimum of 3.85 percent."

Hancock Bank will enter into a lease-purchase agreement with the city to obtain the vehicles.

Dubuisson told the mayor and aldermen three of the 1993 vehicles taken off of patrol will be donated to the three new school resource officers for their use. The fourth 1993 vehicle, which he is driving, will be given to the K-9 officer for his use, the chief said.

'Paws in the Pass' is Saturday

The Humane Society of South Mississippi will be holding its first annual "Paws in the Pass" fund raiser Saturday, April 27 at the War Memorial Park in Pass Christian.

The activities will begin with a parade down Scenic Drive led by the Pass Christian High School Band and followed by representatives of the Humane Society, this year's king and queen. Interested parties may join the parade with or without their pet.

Following the parade will be a fun-filled day of con-

tests and games. There will be a costume contest, Frisbee catch, agility, a maze, bobbing for weenies, and much more.

Registration begins at 9 a.m., and lunch is included.

Entry fees are \$15 for the first dog, \$10 for the second dog, and \$5 for each additional dog.

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Red Cross lifeguard training

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Chapter of the American Red Cross offers lifeguard training.

Lifeguard candidates must be 15 years old or older and pass a pre-course test consisting of a 500-yard swim using the front crawl or freestyle and the breast stroke.

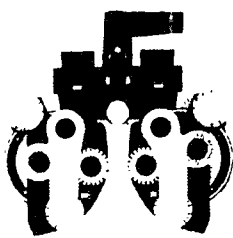
They must also be able to perform a deep water retrieval and carry of a 10-pound weight.

The course is scheduled for May 11, 18, 19, and 25 and will be taught at St. Stanislaus.

All interested parties are asked to call Shawn Tusa at 467-3999 to reserve a place, as class size is limited.

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BUSINESS NEWS



Youth managers

For five hours last Saturday, the Bay St. Louis Winn Dixie store was under the direction of its part-time, younger employees. It was all part of Youth Management Day at the grocery store chain. "This day rewards some of our young associates who have excelled in their work and are enthusiastic and dependable," explained store manager Joe Giametta, Jr. "It gives them an opportunity to demonstrate their leadership talents and to experience the duties of a manager." Youth managers included Nick Bushea, left, Tim Bragg, Mark Acker, Giametta, Misty Bennett, Tara Atwell, Chris Gilmore, Amy Blackstock, Eddie Renz, Jr., Thuy Dang and Mike Gross. (Staff photo by Randy Ponder)



Grand opening

Favre's on the Bayou, 1048 Kiln Delisle Road, recently celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting. The restaurant and sports bar is open daily, serving seafood, steaks, pasta, ribs, po-boys and more. Many friends and relatives attended the opening, including Courtney Thomas, Linda Graffeo, Ricky Adam, Bonita Favre, Scott Favre, Jeff Favre, Jay Cuevas, Amy Corr and Dusty Rhodes. Staff photo by Cecilia Howe)

Locals attend Coldwell Banker International Business Conference

Herb Dubuisson, president of Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty, with Patsy Dubuisson, Sessie Manieri, Margie Mayfield and Mike Oberlies, learned new ways to help today's real estate consumer at the Coldwell Banker Real Estate International Business Conference held recently in San Antonio, Texas.

More than 6,000 Coldwell Banker sales associates, brokers, managers and employees were inspired by the words of former President George Bush and entertained by country western star Clint Black at the annual conference.

"The IBC gave us a chance to exchange ideas with other professionals and learn new ways to improve our customers' real estate experience," Dubuisson said.

"We were particularly impressed with the company's branding efforts including the new ad campaign revolving around a tango theme and tag line of perfect partnership.

"The company also exhib-

ited tremendous marketing savvy with the integration of the equitable Coldwell Banker Golden Retriever and enhancements to the Coldwell Banker Concierge program, which helps our home buyers and sellers long after the transaction is completed.

"We were also pleased that Sessie Manieri and Margie Mayfield received special recognition at the convention. Manieri was recognized as both a top lister as well as an International Presidents Circle award winner for sales.

Mayfield received the prestigious Presidential Elite Award for number of sales.

Coldwell Banker Alfonso, with six offices on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, can be reached locally at 228-467-0244. Coldwell Banker Alfonso has been serving the area for 44 years.

For 95 years, the Coldwell Banker organization, a subsidiary of Cendant Corporation (NYSE: CD), has been the

premier provider of full-service real estate.

Its award-winning Web site is located at www.coldwellbanker.com.

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Diamondhead group to meet

Hancock County Tax Assessor, Collector Jimmie Ladner will be the guest speaker at the Diamondhead Business and Professional Association's general meeting at 8 a.m. Thursday, April 25, in the Diamondhead Country Club.

The group's after-hours event is also scheduled the same day at 5:30 p.m. The hosts are Jackie O's Cafe, Diamondhead Florist, Double M Pest Control and Plaza Wine and Liquor. Pat Ramsey & The Blues Disciples will entertain and food will be served.

Gauthier receives brokers license

Real estate examinations were held for the month of March in Jackson for those persons desiring to enter the field of real estate sales, rentals and other related activities.

The examination consist of 100 questions prepared by the American College Testing Services (ACT) for Real Estate License Law Officials across the United States and Canada.

Commissioner Lenwood Sawyer, 5th Congressional District, Gulfport announced that Stephanie Gauthier of Hancock County received a brokers license.

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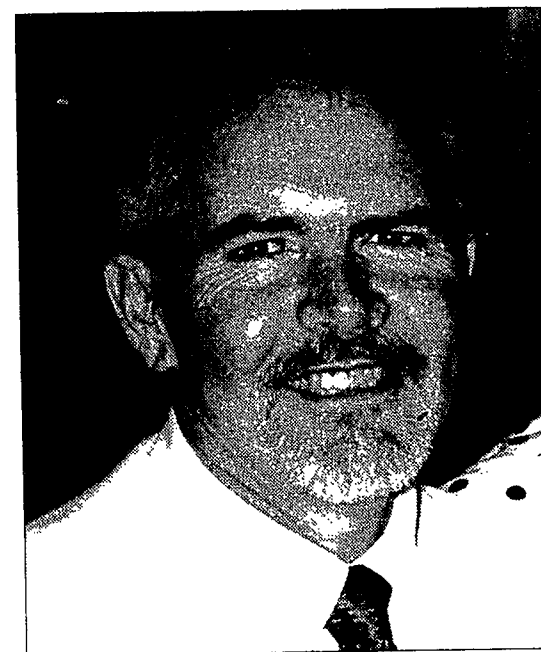
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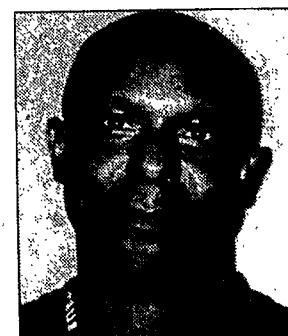
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Sheriff concerned about domestic violence rates

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

As the nation, state and local law enforcement agencies celebrate National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 21-27, crimes happen on a daily basis within Hancock County.

In a news release from District Attorney Cono Caranna's office, Jennifer A. Garraway, victims' assistance coordinator, said, "During this week, organizations to assist crime victims in Harrison, Hancock and Stone counties join to promote greater public awareness about the rights and needs of crime victims."

The Gulf Coast Victims' Rights Coalition held a candlelight ceremony Tuesday night at First Presbyterian Church, Gulfport, with Judge Walker Ward as guest speaker.

Domestic violence calls are answered by Hancock County Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff's Department deputies at a rate of one a day, according to Sheriff Steve Garber.

Bob Lambert, chief investigator, who began keeping records by computer in late 2000 with programs being developed by Investigator Bert Johnson, and continuing adding to the system, is now at a point that the department can make comparisons on most crime categories committed in the county. Domestic violence incident reports since January 1 through Monday, April 22, show the department's deputies answered 115 calls during the first 113 days of 2002.

Sheriff Garber was authorized by the Hancock County Board of Supervisors in early March to secure the efforts of grant writer Gail Watts to file

applications for grant funds to help stem the rise of domestic violence in the county.

Garber said if the county is successful, the funds would be used to hire an additional deputy who will be assigned and trained to handle domestic violence cases. This person would also be used in helping train road deputies in the proper handling of domestic violence calls.

Lambert said the handling of domestic complaints is very complicated, because the state's manual is several inches thick.

Because of the increased number of domestic calls, Garber feels a person just handling domestic cases would be a tremendous asset to his department and could possibly help reduce the violence which appears to be increasing.

Of the 115 domestic calls in 2002, 42 males were arrested, 12 females, and three juveniles.

It was the first offense on 93 calls, second offense for 14, and five third offenses in addition to the three juveniles, Lambert reported.

The calls resulted in 46 charges of simple assault, six disturbance of a family, and 63 cases where no charges were filed for various reasons.

Many times no arrests are made when it is a family dispute, because the victim refuses to file charges against his or her mate, Garber said.

The Sheriff's Department's investigators are kept very busy answering all types of calls throughout the year.

The department's investigators in the first quarter of 2001 investigated 300 cases, solved 71% of them (215);

compared to 199 cases in 2002, solving 78% (148), according to Lambert's records, adding the majority of the cases involved felonies of some type.

Incidents involving juveniles and sex-related cases keep Investigator Kenny Hurt very busy, Lambert said.

In the year of 2001, Hurt investigated 95 school incidents involving juveniles and overall processed a total of 218 juvenile-related incidents in the county.

In comparison of the first quarter of 2001, there were 37 school incidents and 86 juveniles processed, while for 2002 there were 11 school incidents and 27 juveniles processed.

Hurt is also involved in molestation, child abuse and rape cases.

For the first quarter of 2001, he handled 11 molestation and child abuse cases and five rapes.

In the first three months of 2002, Hurt has investigated nine child molestation and child abuse cases and five rapes.

Other investigators for the Sheriff's Department are Rita Blaize-Watson, Brandon Ladner and André Fizer. Investigator Matt Karl now heads the Narcotics Division.

The Sheriff's Department's statistics do not include the municipalities of Bay St. Louis and Waveland.

Anyone with any questions about crime victims' rights may contact the District Attorney's office at 865-4003, or 467-6631.

Garraway can be reached at the DA's office at 865-4003. She is also the coordinator, Gulf Coast Victims' Rights Coalition.



The Bay St. Louis Rotary Club recently presented its Teacher of the Month Award for May to Mary Dillenkoffer, center, of St. Stanislaus. Also pictured are Rotary Club Education Committee Chairman Bob Hubbard and St. Stanislaus Assistant Principal Susan Estrade.



The Bay St. Louis Rotary Club recently welcomed guest speakers Fran Ladner and James Ginn. Ladner is the President of the Pearl River Community College Alumni Association, and Ginn is in charge of fundraising for the organization. Also pictured is Rotary Club president Charlotte Santa Cruz.

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PRCC summer registration dates scheduled

Registration for new students attending Pearl River Community College during the 2002 summer semester will be held on both the Hattiesburg and Poplarville campuses.

On the Hattiesburg campus, new students can register for day and night classes from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday, May 13 in the Multi-Purpose Building. The Hattiesburg campus is located on U.S. 49 South.

On the Poplarville campus, new students can register for day and night classes from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m., on Tuesday, May 14, in the Academic Building on the Poplarville campus.

New students can also register from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. May 14-22 in the Counseling Center by appointment.

Night classes begin Thursday, May 16. Day classes for the first term begin May 30. Day classes for the second term begin July 1. Graduation is July 26.

For information, call (601) 403-1000 or visit the PRCC web site at <http://www.prcc.ms.us>.

May 1 is deadline for Allied Health programs in Hattiesburg.

grams in Hattiesburg

The deadline for applying for Allied Health programs at

Pearl River Community College's Forrest County Center is May 1.

The PRCC allied health programs offered in Hattiesburg include Dental Assisting, Technology, Dental Hygiene Technology, Medical Laboratory and Medical Radiography Technology, Occupational Therapy Assistant and Physical Therapy Assistant Technology, Practical Nursing, and Surgical Technology, and Respiratory Care Technology.

Other technical and vocational programs offered at the Forrest County Center include Electronics Technology, Heating & Air Conditioning Technology, Office Systems Technology, Computer Servicing and Welding.

For information, call (601) 554-5555, or visit the PRCC web site at: www.prcc.ms.us.

PRCC graduations set May 10; George Dale speaker

Commissioner of Insurance George Dale will be the speaker for Pearl

River Community College's commencement exercises Friday, May 10, in M.R. White Coliseum on its Poplarville campus.

Three services will be held, beginning with the vocational-technical ceremony at 10 a.m.

That is followed by the pinning ceremony of the Associate Degree Nursing Department ceremony at 1 p.m. Academic graduates will march at 3:30 p.m.

Dale, a PRCC graduate and Prentiss native, will address the vocational-technical and academic graduates.

He serves as a teacher, coach, principal and administrator in the Moss Point public school system prior to his appointment as Administrative Assistant to former Gov. Bill Waller in 1972.

In 1975, he was first elected Commissioner of Insurance, becoming the youngest insurance commissioner elected in Mississippi history.

Dale, a graduate of Mississippi College, currently is the longest-serving elected insurance commissioner in the country.

He has been active in vol-

unteer work for a number of charities and organizations, including Mississippi College, the YMCA and the Mississippi Heart Association.

Top students in the vocational-technical and nursing divisions will deliver ceremonial speeches before PRCC President William Lewis awards degrees and certificates of proficiency.



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Entry form to Accompany Essay

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VICA STUDENTS COMPETE

Several students from the Hancock County Vo-Tech Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) placed in district level VICA competition Feb. 7 at Pearl River Community College. Back row from left, second place in Technical Drafting and second place in Precision Machine Technology, Justin Lacoste; second place in Architectural Drafting, Brian Hamburg; and second place in Job Interview, Kacey Lee; front row, first place in Brick Masonry, Chris Cain; and first place in Sheet Metal, Jeremy Stilwell. In state VICA competition April 4-6 in Biloxi, Aaron Lee placed third in Technical Drafting; and Jeremy Stilwell placed first in Sheet Metal. Stilwell will attend national VICA competition June 24-29 in Kansas City, Mo.

Voices

SPECIAL

"Voices in the World" held on Friday, April 20, at 7 p.m. in the House.

Present Bay St. Louis, this year, to the tragedy whose lives affected several peace heroes. They have some one including dancing, pets, clowns, peace kit contest.

Also featured Bay St. Louis, the giant the Bay Safety Program. Coast G schools have to participate year with House draw your favorite instrument (great) and. Another will be which will



Voices of Hope/Peace in the World 2002 on May 3

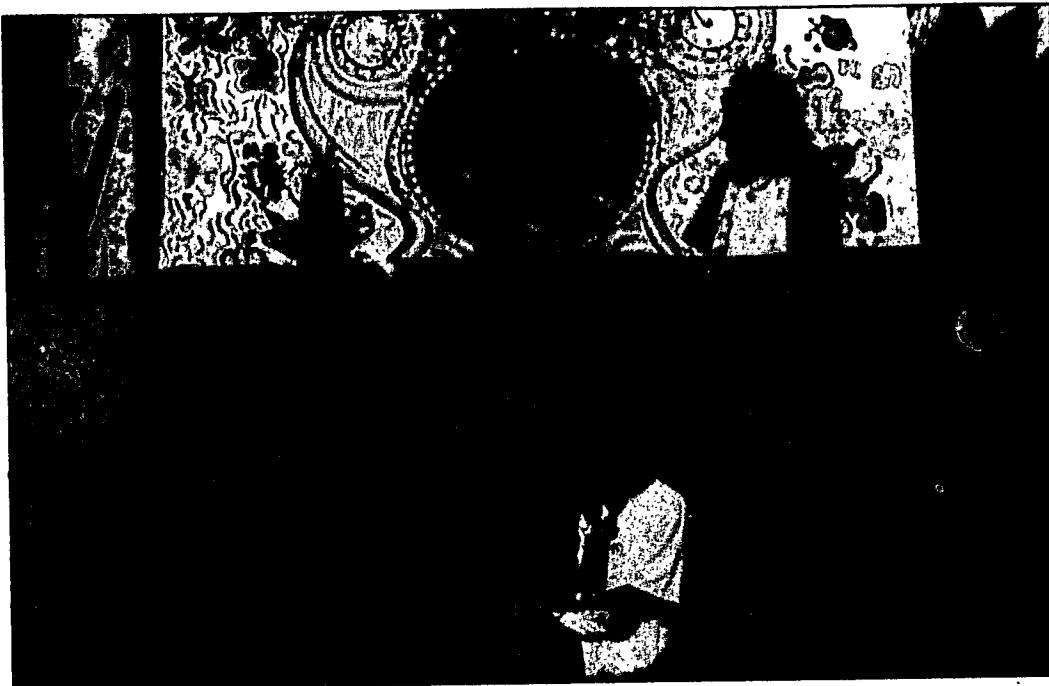
SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

"Voices of Hope, Peace in the World 2002" will be held on Friday, May 3, 6-9 p.m. in front of da Beach House.

Presented by the City of Bay St. Louis, the event this year will be dedicated to the September 11, tragedy and all the people whose lives have been affected by violence. Several community and peace heroes will be honored. The celebration will have something for everyone including singing, dancing, Hawaiian puppets, clowns, balloons, peace kites and a limbo contest.

Also featured will be the Bay St. Louis Fire House, the giant NASA astronaut, the Bay St. Louis Fire Safety Pup and the U. S. Coast Guard. All area schools have been invited to participate. New this year will be da Beach House drummers. So bring your favorite percussion instrument (homemade is great) and join in the fun.

Another new feature will be sand sculptures, which will be begun earlier



Coleen Read narrates an Earth Events multi-media show.

in the day, and a milk carton boat race. (Check the Internet for instructions on how to build a milk carton boat.) Everyone is also encouraged to bring a small boat to float in wading pools placed on the beach.

Awards and prizes will be given in various contests and categories throughout the night.

Bay Catholic will be

selling luminaries with proceeds going toward the new school playground. Snacks, pizza and drinks will be sold.

As in years past, the night will end with the singing of "Let There Be Peace on Earth" by candlelight/flashlight, led by the St. Rose de Lima Gospel Choir.

So come out and let peace begin with you. You

are needed.

There is no admission charge, but everyone is asked to bring a donation of canned goods for the Hancock County Food Pantry and a smile.

For more information contact Connie at 467-1892, Kathryn at 467-2483, Karen at 452-7886 or Coleen (da Beach House) colleen@earth-events.com.

St. Stanislaus inducts Haas into Hall of Fame

St. Stanislaus College will induct Michael Haas, Sr., class of 1951, into its Hall of Fame for the 2001-2002 academic year, according to Brother Ronald Talbot, SC, SSC president.

The induction will take place at the St. Stanislaus' annual Founders Society Banquet and Hall of Fame Induction scheduled for Saturday, April 27 at 7 p.m.

Haas was born and raised in Hancock County. A 1951 graduate of St. Stanislaus, he participated in football, track, and boxing.

He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Southern Mississippi and continued his studies at the University of Mississippi School of Law where he received his juris doctorate.

After completion of his studies in 1957, Haas began his law practices in Bay St. Louis. He was then called to serve in the United States Army to fulfill his obligation as a member of the ROTC.

Following two years of military service, he returned to Bay St. Louis to resume his law practice and start his family. He and his



Michael Haas Sr.

wife, Myrtle Jane Wingo Haas, have two sons and four daughters.

Haas's career accomplishments include helping to begin the first Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees), helping to secure funding, along with his father, Norton Haas, for the construction of the first hospital in Hancock County; working with community leaders to establish the Port and Harbor Commission; serving as legal counsel for Coast Electric Power Association for 40 years; and presiding as Youth Court judge from 1964 to 1993.

It's Time To Dine Out! Spotlight on Dining 2002

Rickey's Bar & Grill

Chef Rickey Peters invites you to experience the fruit of his talents at Rickey's Bar and Grill, 207 Coleman Avenue, Waveland. Chef Rickey is a protégé of Chef Paul Frudhomme. An artisan in his trade for fifteen years, Chef Rickey is proud to offer original dishes to please your palate.

Rickey's Bar and Grill serves everything from steaks, pasta dishes, po-boys, and of course, seafood. Chef Rickey doesn't want his patrons to leave hungry and that is evident in the size of the portions. For example, the Swamp Burger Deluxe, (you'll need to cut this one in half just to lift it!) is a full ten ounces of deliciously lean ground beef served fully dressed on a sesame seeded bun with fries! If you dare, try topping it with bacon, Monterey jack, cheddar, or Swiss cheese, or sautéed mushrooms or onions. Truly, not for the tiny appetite!

Speaking of tiny appetites, Rickey's is family oriented. Kids have their own section on the menu and each child is given a little stuffed toy - a dolphin, naturally.

A very popular item on the newly revised menu is country fried gator strips. This unique appetizer is fresh gator meat lightly fried and served with a tangy remoulade sauce. While we're on the subject of remoulade - Rickey's has the best, shrimp remoulade. You won't believe the size of the portion, it's a meal in itself.

Rickey's steaks are melt in your mouth delicious, chargrilled to perfection, and topped with Rickey's own brown butter garlic (you won't find a better steak anywhere!).

If pasta suits your fancy try the Pasta Calina. This is a favorite at Rickey's - the sauce is his grandmother's own red gravy recipe. Tender, delicious meatballs slow simmered in "the sauce" with buttered angelhair pasta and topped with crispy fried eggplant and dusted with parmesan reggiano.

Chef Rickey gives much credit to partner Bill Boyd and to his staff. "I could not do this without them," says Rickey.

Rickey's lunch specials, served 11-3 daily, start



Rickey Peters welcomes you to Rickey's.

at only \$5.95. Monday night's special is tender baby-back ribs. Hungry yet?

Rickey's Bar and Grill is open Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

For more information call 463-0540

Restaurant Owners: If you would like your restaurant reviewed by The Sea Coast Echo, please call Cecilia or Suzette at 467-5474.

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Red Beans & Rice Cook-off



Bay St. Louis Mayor Eddie Favre campaigns seriously for the People's Choice Award Monday during the Red Beans & Rice Cook-off, as Mary Perkins of the Hancock County Library savors the city of Bay St. Louis' award-winning submission.

The "bean-counters" are still determining the final tally, but all indications are that the 13th annual Red Beans and Rice Cook-off at the Hancock County Civic Center raised a thousands dollars for the American Cancer Society. Thirty-three teams competed in this year's event. Prizes were awarded in several categories. Winners included the Hancock County Board of Supervisors, DuPont DeLisle Plant, and Hancock Medical Center — and event Chairman Jimmie Ladner won for "Best Cornbread." Judges included Judge Margaret Alfonso, Armond Jonté, Basil Kennedy, Melinda Richard and Ellis C. Cuevas. The city of Bay St. Louis won the "People's Choice Award" for the third year in a row. Look for a complete list of categories and winners in Sunday's Echo.

Echo staff photos
by Geoff Belcher



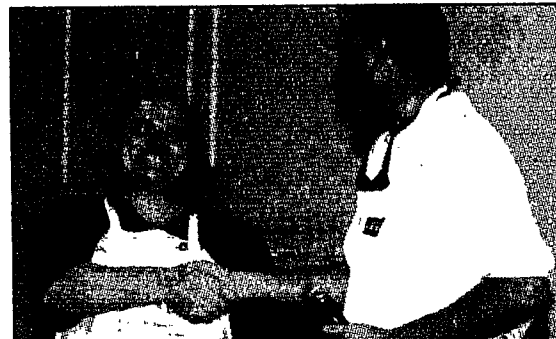
U.S. Rep. Gene Taylor casts his vote for the People's Choice Award.



The Hancock Medical Center team gloats over its award — in luau splendor.



Asst. Bay St. Louis Police Chief Dave Stepro earned a special award for securing the beans for the cook-off from the Camellia Co.



Event Chairman Jimmie Ladner welcomes next year's chair, Eddie Favre, and congratulates him on his "three-peat" victory.



The Hancock County Board of Supervisors team won judge's choice for Best Beans, Government Agency.

County switches health watchdogs

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

Hancock County has switched back to a former contractor to administer health insurance for its full-time work force.

The board recessed its meeting on April 16, and met again April 22 with representatives of Lockard and Williams Insurance Services of Pascagoula, which up to two years ago administered and managed the county's self-insurance policy.

For the past two years, the county major medical and prescription coverage had been administered by Mississippi Public Entity of Jackson, which administers insurance programs for about 70 counties.

Mississippi Public Entity's coverage for the county's full-time work force and administration fees for

the coming year would have cost a total \$231,515, according to County Administrator Tim Kellar.

He said Lockard and Williams was able to offer "basically the same" coverage for employees and management of the system for \$208,813, a yearly savings of \$22,701.

Under the new contract, the 141 full-time employees who elect single coverage will pay a premium of \$12.50 a month. The county's monthly match for sin-

gle coverage per each employee is \$434.63 per month. For those 57 employees who select family coverage, the employee's monthly cost is \$172.60. The county's monthly match is \$447.50 per family.

Kellar said the board's new one-year contract with Lockard & Williams begins May 1.

He said Mississippi Public Entity still has the contract to administer the county's Workman's Comp claims.

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THE PACE FILES

BY STAN PACE

County Extension Agent
Spring is here. The dogwoods are in bloom. Notice as you drive around that the dogwoods deep in the woods have nice blossoms, but the dogwoods on the edge of the woods are more densely covered in flowers. Keep this in mind as you place dogwoods in your landscape.

Blackberries and dewberries are also blooming now. Dewberries trail while blackberries grow upright.

If you are raising blackberries, notice the petal color closely. The petals should be white. Pink petals indicate double blossom disease and the fruit from those flowers will not be of high quality. The treatment for the disease is in the fall, so noticing now should send you to your calendar to mark next September to spray the blackberries with a fungicide.

Sweet corn planted early is less likely to have worm problems. Planting during the first two weeks of April will produce roasting ears for Independence Day.

Don't "mud" the seeds in, though. The soil should be moist, not saturated, when any seed is planted. Sweet corn starts losing sugar the minute it is removed from the stalk, so the sweetest ears will always come from corn you grow and harvest yourself.

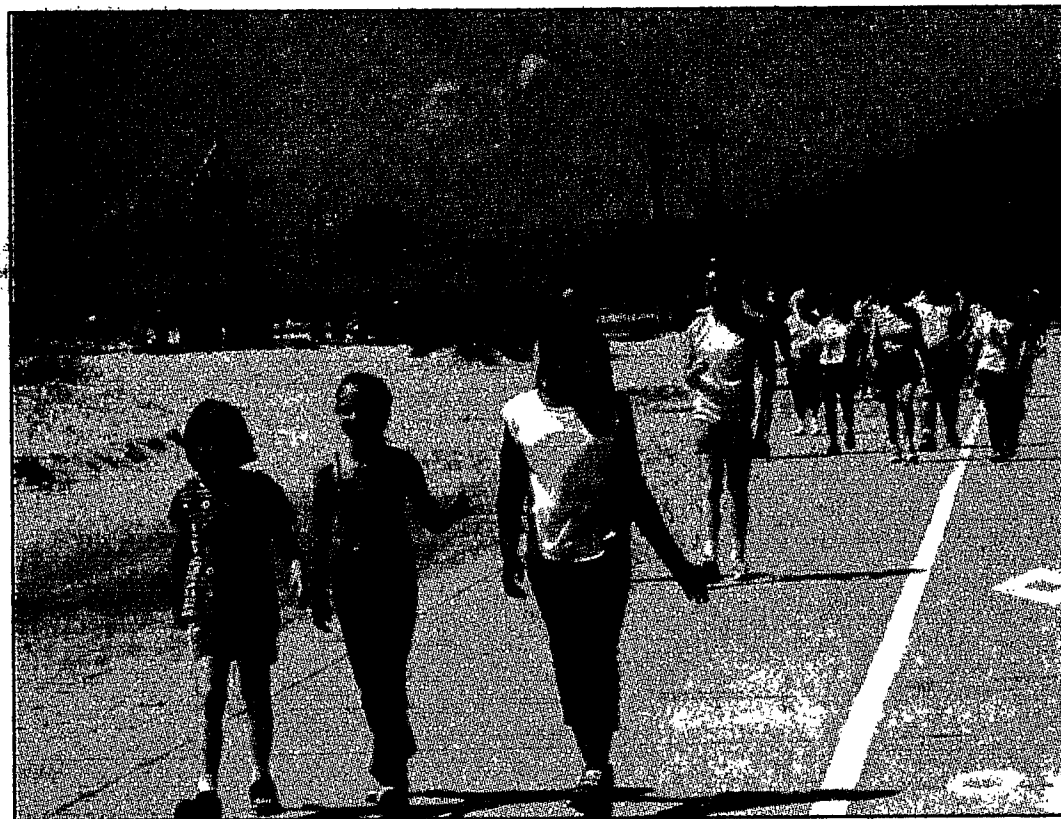
Two gardeners from Carroll County told me the best way to keep deer out of the garden was to string an electric fence wire around the garden about six inches above the ground. Both of them have many years experience and swear that it works. The most important task for the lawn now is mowing. Mowing will remove the winter weed growth and allow the sun to warm the turf.

Mowing also will train the grass to grow sideways, not upright. This will fill in weak spots and discourage summer weeds.

Mowing will also remove that dead, brown stubble and make the lawn more attractive.

The Master Gardener Hotline is open for business. Don't forget to call the Master Gardener Hotline with any garden or lawn question that you may have. (1-866Garden8 or 1-866-427-3368)

Waveland: Can-do Spirit



Saturday was a busy day in Waveland. The second annual Spruce up the Avenue and trash can painting contest drew a crowd to Coleman Avenue for a day of fun. Amateurs, kids and professionals painted to their hearts content on cans donated by Goodwill Industries. The annual MS Walk raised more than \$3,000 for the cause.

Echo staff photos
by Bennie Shallbetter



1942 — Four sons of Waveland mayor join the military

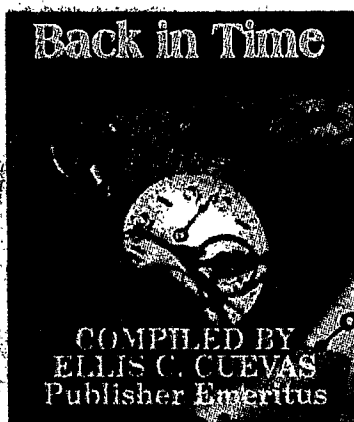
TWENTY YEARS AGO

April 11, 1982 — Ammo plant is Hancock's brightest job prospect.

The Mississippi Army Ammunition Plant at the National Space Technology Laboratories is the brightest prospect for Hancock County said U.S. Representative Trent Lott, the state's Fifth District U.S. Congressman, after a tour of NSTL facility now in its final stages of construction.

Lott stated, "The plant will employ 500-1,500 people primarily in semi-skilled areas."

A phased construction of the \$467 million plant is



planned within the next two years where a newly-developed 155-millimeter anti-personnel and armor penetrating fragmentation howitzer shell will be manufactured exclusively for the

Army.

FORTY YEARS AGO

April 12, 1962 — Dedication services are planned Sunday at the First Presbyterian Church on Ulman Avenue. Dr. Claude H. Prichard of Atlanta, GA., secretary of home missions for the Presbyterian Church will preach at the 11 a.m. service.

The dedication will take place at 3 p.m. with Rev. W.J. Stanway, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Hattiesburg delivering the sermon on the Church of the Living God.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

April 11, 1952 — The

Board of King's Daughters Hospital met on Monday, April 7, to elect officers for the year of 1952. The new president, Mrs. Edward Carrere will be assisted by Mrs. Lucien Gex, first vice-president; Mrs. Ben Hille, second vice-president; Mrs. E. P. Kirkpatrick, secretary; Mrs. Leo Ford, treasurer; and Dr. Ernest Samuel, hospital consultant.

At the end of the meeting, Mrs. Hille presented the hospital two Navy stretchers to be used in emergency cases.

Piano students of Mrs. Marie Webre Bordages were presented in a recital recently at St. Joseph

Memorial Hall. On the program were Ennis Johnson, Marietta Schwartz, Mildred Usher, Janis Bankston, Gwen Heitzmann, Celeste Chevis, Barbara Kidd, Helen Wolfe, Peggy Kergosien, Linda Ladner, Paula Kimbrell, Patricia Bennett, Anna Marie Mendel, Jackie Taillac, Frances Brensike, Jo Ann Benigno, Sandra Scaffide, Kinta Kergosien, Kathleen Benigno, Jean Fritzpatrick, Alice Dupaquier, Patricia Favre, Carolyn Curet, Laurie Curet, Jerry Martin and Ethyl Ann Raymond.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

April 10, 1942 — Four

sons of Waveland family in military. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bourgeois, Sr. of Waveland have every reason to be proud of their family, and the people of Waveland are justified in feeling proud of having such a family in their town.

Mr. Bourgeois is mayor of the Town of Waveland and has served as mayor for a period of 23 years. The sons in military are Hayward, Stanley, Elwood and Jerry.

Mr. and Mrs. Bourgeois are proud of the fact that they have been able to give four of their sons to the service of their country, and the other six boys are within the draft age.

The SeaCoast Echo

SPORTS

Santiago, former SSC standout, named PRCC Male Athlete of Year

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

Former St. Stanislaus standout Jason Santiago, of Bay St. Louis, was recently named the Male Athlete of the Year at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville.

The 2001 graduate of SSC was honored at PRCC's spring Awards Day last week.

The freshman played both football and baseball for the Wildcats this past academic year where he excelled at both sports. In football, he played strong safety and on the diamond he roamed the outfield for PRCC.

Santiago stated, "This award is a very nice compliment to me as it is voted on by the coaches here at PRCC. It feels good to know that others think so highly of you."

Santiago was not recruited heavily out of high school to play either sport despite being just the fourth Coast quarterback to exceed the 4,000-yard mark in career passing. He threw for over 4,700 yards during his prep career for the Rock-a-chaws. The only other quarterbacks to throw for over 4,000 yards in a career were Mickey D'Angelo of USM and Long Beach, Derrick Taite of Mississippi State and Moss Point, and Kevin Fant of Mississippi State and Moss Point.



You're not going anywhere!

Former SSC gridiron standout Jason Santiago (#12) goes in for the stop during a PRCC football game last fall. Recently, Santiago was named the Male Athlete of the Year at Pearl River Community College.

He continued, "It was a very wise decision for me to attend Pearl River. It has allowed me to adjust properly to college life. It has given me a chance to

mature academically, physically, and mentally. I feel that I have received a jump on my education here at PRCC."

Santiago played strong

safety for the 7-2 Wildcats this past fall where he recorded 30 solo tackles and 24 assists for a total tackle number of 54.

He was a starter from day one. On the diamond, Santiago roams the outfield and is batting .209 with 2 homeruns and 5 stolen bases.

Santiago recalled, "There is always the need for improvement. We work hard each day, especially in the weight room. In football, we emphasized the team aspect. I was fortunate that I had some tremendous players surrounding me. That enabled me to be put in position to make some plays. In baseball, we work extremely hard to better ourselves every time we step onto the field."

Santiago is unsure where his path will lead him after Pearl River, but he will be well-prepared for the next step. Recruiting on the junior college level does not pick up until the latter part of May for freshman. Starting there, Santiago will be able to showcase his talent to major college coaches.

He said, "My goal is to play at the Division I level. I am eager to see where that road will take me. Until then, I will continue to work hard and develop my skills on the field and in the classroom here at PRCC."

BWYC participates in the 2002 Gulf Coast Sunfish Regional Championships

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Ryan Hamilton, a 14-year-old junior from Mandeville, led most of race one of the 2002 Gulf Coast Regionals and World Championship qualifier.

The 120-pound junior knew that the day would be an uphill battle for him when the wind continued to increase.

Tom Whitehurst, representing Fleet 295 out of Pensacola, displayed his usual blazing upwind speed and smarts taking the first two races.

When he hit the second mark in race three, however, he allowed three sailors to pass while he sailed his penalty turn.

Hank Saurage, Todd Edwards and Bishop Stieffel were quite aware that Whitehurst was building a substantial lead and

that they would have to hold him back if they were to close the point gap.

Whitehurst would go on to finish fourth, but when he won the fourth and last race Saturday, the championship was beginning to look like it would be his.

The fleet arrived Sunday morning to a surprising 8-12 knots out of the south, and the breeze would only pick up as the day developed.

Kippy Chamberlain and Kevin Northrup took advantage of the early race's 12-15 knots, finishing first and third, respectively, to move up in the standings, but the last two races brought in 15-18 knots, and these conditions would certainly favor the heavier, stronger sailors.

Whitehurst managed a good lead early in race six,

and his lead increased to impressive when Saurage and Stieffel tangled, battling for the second overall spot.

The race for second almost ended as soon as the last race started.

Stieffel checked the wind direction with a minute to go before the start and realized that a left shift was moving in. Quickly, he sailed to the left end of the line to set up for a port tack start, but Anne Edwards of Baton Rouge, picked up on it, and at the last second foiled his plan.

Botching his start, he had to tack underneath none other than Saurage for a minute or so before he could clear his breeze.

Sailing hard and fast, he managed to round the first mark second, but Saurage had mounted such a lead

that Stieffel couldn't catch him.

Consistent finishes between second and fifth through the seven races, Stieffel finished third.

Winning the Regionals qualifies Whitehurst for the 2003 World Championships.



Bay-Waveland Yacht Club members Bishop Stieffel, Gilly Chamberlain, Kippy Chamberlain, Kevin Northrup, Todd Edwards, Anne Edwards, John Chapoton, Missa Chapoton and Johnny White participated recently in the 2002 Gulf Coast Sunfish Regional Championships.

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SPORTS

Wildcats capture crown with doubleheader sweep

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Pearl River Community College captured its first South Division baseball championship in 10 years Saturday with a doubleheader sweep over arch-rival Jones, which included a 9-8, 11-inning marathon in the nightcap.

The Wildcats, who last won the coveted league title in 1992 and will eye post-season play for the first time in two years, took a 6-2 victory in the first game and improved to 31-7 overall and 16-4 in league play with the wins. Jones, second in the division race, dropped to 21-18 and 12-8.

First-year Wildcat head coach Jay Artigues says he hopes his team is "peaking at the right time."

"This is the time of the year that you've got to go for it," Artigues said. "Our pitching has been a mainstay and has kept us in lots of games and our offense stepped it up today. I just hope we'll continue to gel on both sides of the ball."

"One positive thing is that we're not relying on just two or three players to step up," he continued. "It seems like we've got a different body coming to the rescue every game."

Pearl River has a division doubleheader remaining before entering the MACJC State Tournament as the South's No. 1 seed at the North Division winners' home diamond May 3-5. Copiah-Lincoln, 12-10 in the league after Saturday's sweep by Hinds, visits Saturday at 1 p.m. to wrap up the regular season.

The South Division's Division II champ will host the Region XXIII Tournament May 10-12. At present, the Wildcats have the upper hand regarding

that particular bid, but all the region's Division II schools PRCC, Co-Lin, Hinds, and LSU-Eunice have four games remaining. All four teams are still in the running with the top two finishers earning regional berths.

In Saturday's first game, PRCC grabbed a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the third and never looked back. Nate Murray of Bogalusa got his first extra-base hit of the season with a one-out double in the frame, then scored off a single by Jake Smith of Picayune High. Smith scored off a double by Justin Gros of Oak Grove.

JCJC cut into PRCC's lead with one run in the top of the fifth when Craig Bush cracked a bases-loaded double, but saw Bobcat base runner Wyn Spencer tagged out at third before a second run could cross home plate.

Pearl River answered with four runs in the bottom of the frame when JCJC starter Matt McAlpin loaded the bases with two base hits and a hit batter, then hit Smith with a pitch to push a Wildcat run home. An out later, Eric Adkins of Purvis belted a two-run single to make it 5-1, then Smith scored off a single by Jered Salazar of Lafayette, La.

Wildcat starter Jeff Middleton of Mobile left reliever Collin Smith with two base runners when the Baton Rouge sophomore took over the mound with two out in the top of the sixth. Smith, who picked up the 9-8 win in the nightcap in relief, rose to the occasion and recorded his first strikeout of the afternoon to get out of the jam, then a second K to end the game.

Jones salvaged a run in the top of the seventh with

two outs when Spencer walked and eventually scored off Ricky Breazeale's single.

Middleton (4-1) picked up the win in going five-and-two-thirds innings, striking out two and walking one; while Smith also walked a batter. McAlpin (6-4) was the loser in going the distance, striking out three, walking one, and hitting one batter.

Gros and Murray doubled to pace PRCC's eight-hit effort, while Adkins, Salazar, Jake Smith, Jared Harris of Poplarville, and Derek Underwood and Jabrell Cook, both of Hattiesburg High, all singled.

In the nightcap, Collin Smith came to the rescue after the Wildcats had gallantly rallied back from a 6-0 deficit, but trailed 8-7 after tying it up in the bottom of the sixth. Smith, who relieved reliever Josh O'Flynn with two outs in the top of the eighth, struck out five and walked none in his three-and-one-third innings in relief to improve to 5-0 on the year.

O'Flynn relieved starter Jonathan Mitcham of North Forrest in the third.

The Bobcats went up 3-0 in the top of the second when Chad McIlwain's single and Sullivan's walk set the stage for Michael McCraney's monster three-run homer, then JCJC added three more in the top of the third off an error, singles by Scott Robertson and McIlwain, and a two-run double by McCraney.

Jones left base runners stranded at first and third in the top of the fourth, then Pearl River bounced back with five runs in the bottom of the frame. Jake Smith led off

with a single, then Gros bashed a two-run homer his first as a Wildcat. Blake Munna of Poplarville then walked and Brett Harris of Picayune High singled to set the stage for Jared Harris' two-run single. Harris' pinch runner Rodney Hayes of Hattiesburg High scored off Murray's single to make it 6-5.

Bobcat starter Chris Hollomon relinquished the mound for reliever Jared White with the bases loaded and two outs in the frame, but Gros, batting for the second time in the inning, flew out.

Jones added a solo run in the top of the fifth off singles by McIlwain and Pipkins to make it 7-5, but PRCC tied it up in the bottom of the sixth off singles by Brett Harris, Cook, and Jake Smith.

O'Flynn opened the eighth with his fourth and final strikeout, but then hit a batter and gave up a run off back-to-back singles to put the Wildcats down 8-7. Collin Smith entered the game with two base runners and immediately gave up another single to McIlwain to load the bases, then struck out Sullivan to get out of the jam.

Pearl River tied it up again in the top of the eighth when Munna's double and Underwood's single set the stage for Jared Harris' RBI-single. Murray was intentionally walked to load the bases with one out, but Jake Smith struck out and Gros flew out to end the inning.

Collin Smith struck out the side in the top of the 10th, while the Wildcats left Murray stranded at third to end the frame. PRCC won it in the bottom of the 11th

when Jake Smith singled, reached third off a fielder's choice by Salazar, and scored to end the game off an errant pick off throw to first.

Starter Mitcham pitched two-and-two-thirds innings, striking out two and walking one, while O'Flynn struck out four, walked one, and hit one batter in relief.

Justin Henington (3-1) was the losing pitcher after relieving in the seventh. He struck out one and walked two, while starter Hollomon went three-and-one-thirds innings, striking out four and walking one. Reliever

White struck out one and walked one.

Pearl River finished with 10 hits, led by Gros' homer and two-single efforts from Jake Smith and Salazar Murray, Cook, Underwood, Brett Harris, and Jared Harris all singled.

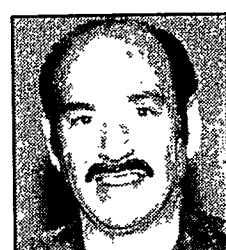
Following the state and regional events, the Central District Tournament will pit Region XXIII against Region VII May 16-18 (exact location in Kentucky to be announced), then it's the "big dance" at the 2002 NJCAA Division II World Series in Millington, Tenn., May 25 through June 1.

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PRCC sweeps Lady 'Cat fight in Poplarville

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Pearl River swept rival Jones 6-3 and 2-1 in MACJC women's South Division doubleheader softball action last week in the Lady Wildcats' final home stand of the 2002 season.

Fresh off a twin bill sweep from the likes of division leader Mississippi Gulf Coast in Perkinston, the Lady Wildcats got back on the winning track against the Lady Bobcats and improved to 15-13 overall and a second-best 15-5 mark in division play. JCJC dropped to 14-12 and 7-11.

The twin bill was originally started on April 9, but a torrential downpour halted the first game in the top of the fourth inning with PRCC up 6-3.

JCJC grabbed the first run of the game in the top of the first off a walk, a hit batter, and an RBI single by Blair Brown, but PRCC answered with two in the bottom of the frame off a hit batter, an RBI sacrifice by Brandi Tynes of Columbia High, and an RBI single by Melissa Speights of West Marion.

The Lady Bobcats quickly tied it up in the top of the second with three straight base hits by Courtney Harrington, Demetrice Jones, and Kim Thompson, but PRCC grabbed a solid 6-2 lead in the bottom of the frame with four runs, highlighted by a two-run double by Christy Wilson of Lafayette, La.

Jones answered with its final run in the top of the third when Brown tripled and scored off Mandy Gibson's sacrifice.

The Lady Wildcats left two base runners stranded in the bottom of the fourth, while winning pitcher

Christy Wilson struck out three of the four JCJC batters she faced in the top of the fifth.

The freshman from Lafayette, La., finished the game with seven strikeouts and no walks, while losing pitcher Holly Neal managed one strikeout and three walks.

In the nightcap, sophomore designated hitter Candy Coggins of West Marion bashed a bases-loaded triple in the bottom of the seventh to snap a 1-1 deadlock for the victory.

PRCC went up 1-0 in the bottom of the first when Wilson walked and eventually scored on an error, while Jones tied it up in the top of the fourth when Kim Thompson walked and scored off Bishop's single.

In the bottom of the inning, PRCC left two bases runners stranded, while JCJC left two on in the top of the fifth. From that point, both teams went three-up and three-down until the bottom of the final frame when three straight walks loaded the bases for Coggins' game winning triple.

Both teams finished with four hits. Coggins' triple led PRCC's effort, while Tynes, Alicia Horne of Hattiesburg High, and Mindy Ladner of Hancock County singled. Brown, Jones, Harrington, and Bishop singled for the Lady Bobcats.

Copiah-Lincoln plays host in Wesson Saturday, April 27 to wrap up the regular season.

The MACJC State Tournament is set for May 3-4 at the home field of the North Division regular season champ.

The top two finishers from the MACJC's North

and South divisions earn berths in the event. District tournament action is set for May 10-11 (location to be

announced), while the NJCAA National Tournament is set for May 16-19 in Phoenix, Ariz.

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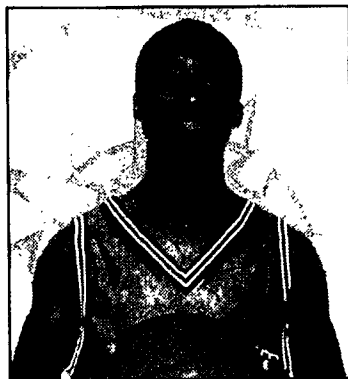
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SPORTS

SSC basketball coach and players earn honors



Gabe Willis



Cheick Sanankoua



Darius Acker



Brian Butler



Brent Acker



Coach Jay Ladner

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Saint Stanislaus High School basketball head coach Jay Ladner and five SSC players received special honors, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, SC, principal.

Head Coach Jay Ladner was named as the south squad's head coach in the Mississippi North/South All-Star game to be played in July on the campus of Mississippi College.

He was selected by the Mississippi Association of Coaches. Coach Ladner is currently the SSC athletic director, alumni director, and head basketball coach. He has been coaching at SSC for the past 11 years.

"This is a top honor for a coach in the state of Mississippi," Ladner said. "I am honored and humbled

by the selection. I feel like this is an extension of what our team and program have accomplished."

Sophomore Darius Acker was named to the second team of the Mississippi Association of Coaches All-State Team, to the Division 8 Class 4A team, and to the 4A All-State Tournament Team.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Acker of Pearl. He is also a member of the SSC football team.

Other players honored this season were seniors Brent Acker, Brian Butler, and Cheick Sanankoua and junior Gabe Willis.

Brent Acker was selected as one of the SSC tri-captains for the 2001-2002 season. He is the grandson of Gaynell Acker of Bay St.

Louis. He is also a member of the track team and the Key Club.

Brian Butler was selected as one of the SSC tri-captains for the 2001-2002 season. He is the son of Mrs. Ezell Butler of Bay St. Louis. He is also a member of the track team and the St. Rose de Lima Youth Group.

Cheick Sanankoua was named to the Division 8 Class 4A team, to the Mississippi Coast Classic Team, and to the Sun Herald All-Gulf Coast Team.

He was selected as the Division 8 Class 4A Defensive Player of the Year and one of the SSC tri-captains for the 2001-2002 season.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Idrissa Sanankoua of the Ivory Coast of Africa. He

is also a member of the Key Club, track team, and the National Honor Society.

Gabe Willis was selected to the Division 8 Class 4A team and to the 4A All-State Tournament Team. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Grady A. Willis, Jr., of Waveland. He is also a member of the football team, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Student Ministry.

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Lady Cats finish state tennis tournament tied for 4th place

Pearl River's women's tennis team finished tied for fourth place in the 2002 MACJC-Region XXIII Tournament held Friday through Sunday on the Meridian Community College campus.

PRCC finished tied with Hinds with eight points during the three-day event, while Copiah-Lincoln finished on top with 33 points. Meridian was second with 25 points, followed by Itawamba with 18, Hinds and Pearl River, Jones with six, East Central with four, Holmes with one, and Southwest and Mississippi Gulf Coast with no points.

The Lady Wildcats, under the fifth-year direction of head coach Camille Soulier, had their moments, however. No. 3 singles player Leslie Miller of Poplarville defeated Gulf Coast's Krissy Gattis 6-1, 6-0 on Friday, then bounced back with a 6-1, 6-0 decision over Jones' Stephanie Stringer to make it to Sunday's finals.

Co-Lin's Bethany Barr was victorious over Miller 6-3, 6-2 in the finals.

"We didn't fair as well as hoped, but we changed the outcome of the tournament and I'm pleased with that," said Soulier. "And we played with class and earned the respect of our opponents. That makes me proud. When your kids have just

eliminated an opponent and that opponent turns around and roots for you in the next round, that says something for your players and your program."

In opening round action on Friday, PRCC No. 1 singles player Leigh McCombs of Lumberton fell to Copiah-Lincoln's Lindsay Phillips 6-3, 6-2; then No. 2 singles Tannia McAtee of Petal was defeated by East Central's Brandy Bounds 6-1, 3-6, 6-3.

PRCC's No. 4 singles player Tonya Newton of Purvis fell to Meridian's Anna Bailey 6-0, 6-3 in first-round action, while Amy Altom of Purvis defeated Southwest's Heather Morgan 6-1, 6-0 to move into Saturday's second round. No. 5 singles player Ashley Ponder of Bay High drew a first-round bye, but was defeated by Meridian's Jill Hathorn 7-6 (2), 6-1 on Saturday.

Altom dropped her semifinal match 6-1, 6-0 to Co-Lin's Kimberly McBride, while Miller followed with her victory over Stringer to move on to the finals.

In first-round doubles action, PRCC's No. 1 team of McCombs and McAtee defeated East Central's Brandy Bounds and Tori Tijernia 6-4, 6-7 (2), 6-1; while the No. 2 team of Miller and Newton defeated Gulf Coast's Krissy Logan

and Sarah Gattis 6-1, 6-0 to move to the semi-finals. No. 3 Altom and Ponder fell to Meridian's Cassie Joyner and Jill Hathorn 6-0, 6-1.

McComb and McAtee fell to Jones' Brittany Whitaker and Andrea Autin 4-6, 6-1, 6-2 on Saturday, while Miller and Newton fell to Meridian's Anna Bailey and Judy Carde 6-3, 6-7 (2), 7-5.

"With a little luck of the draw, we could've gone a long way," Soulier continued. "But the draw is just that...luck. And it didn't work out too well for us from the get to. Seven of the nine numbers I pulled out of the hat were No. 1 through No. 4 seeded opponents."

"It was an uphill battle from the start, but we competed well and I couldn't be more pleased with our group."

Pearl River hosts the mens' MACJC-Region XXIII Tournament Friday through Sunday at Tatum Park off Highway 11 South in Hattiesburg. Besides PRCC, Soulier said 10 other teams will be represented at the event, including Copiah-Lincoln, East Central, Hinds, Holmes, Jones, Itawamba, Meridian, Mississippi Gulf Coast, Northeast, and Southwest.

The tournament draw and pairing will be held Thursday night in Hattiesburg.

Millsaps announces basketball camps

The 22nd annual John Stroud Professional Basketball Camps will be held this summer at Millsaps College. More than 6,000 boys and girls have attended these camps over the past 21 years.

John Stroud, a former SEC and NBA player, will head a staff of top college players and high school coaches. Listed below is information pertaining to these camps. For more information, call (601) 974-1199.

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Entertainment

Retreat brings internat'l 'spirit' to Waveland

AN EXTRA SPECIAL

To encourage peace through the arts, a multi-cultural music retreat will be held on the Gulf Coast in Waveland May 17, 18, and 19.

A sacred world music event, Sound&Spirit MusicFest brings master musician/teachers from Sufi, Buddhist, Islamic, Hindu, Hebrew and Christian musical traditions together for the first time to teach songs, chants, and other traditional sound practices from each spiritual culture.

It is a participatory event (which means you learn instead of just listen), but it is not necessary to know anything about music or the different spiritual traditions to attend. The event features an Islamic drumming dhikr (remembrance) ceremony, North Indian raga singing, a Buddhist youth Japanese taiko drumming troupe, Southern Christian full-gospel choral singing, a Jewish klezmer band, and other musical surprises.

Sunday morning, a musical Universal Worship honoring all the world's reli-

gious traditions will be presented.

Dances of Universal Peace, simple circle dances using sacred phrases from all spiritual traditions, will also be shared by trained dance leaders throughout the weekend. No sacred music event in Mississippi would be complete without Christian gospel, and Al Acker is one of the most energetic and inspiring blues-gospel choir leaders in the region.

Music is Al Acker's ministry and gospel is the sacred music of the South. He is the arranger/director of the award-winning St. Rose de Lima Choir and will be joined at Sound and Spirit Music Fest by other Mississippi Gulf Coast full-gospel musicians to teach lively, creative arrangements of old gospel favorites as well as traditional gospel part-singing techniques.

Shabba Kahn, Sound&Spirit MusicFest's music director, well-known for teaching from a global perspective, is the founder of the Chisti-Sabri School of Music in Northern California, and is the spiritual director of the Sufi

International. Pir Shabba Kahn will sing raga accompanied by New Orleans musicians Priyo Majumdar, Sean Johnson, and tabla player, Andrew McLean. In addition to teaching Indian music, Shabba Kahn will lead Sufi sound practices and Dances of Universal Peace assisted by certified dance leaders, Diana Kanyo from Florida, Farrunnissa Lila Rosa from North Carolina, and others.

Sacred Islamic prayers and dhikr/zikr practice will be led at MusicFest by Bilal Hyde, Muslim Chaplain and Quranic Reciter for Rumi's Mevlevi (whirling dervishes), who offers Middle Eastern Drumming Dhikr sacred sound events worldwide. Imam Bilal Hyde taught Islamic History at the University of California, Berkeley, is able to balance a mystic's perspective with that of a pragmatist's, and will be available for questions on Islam.

He trained in Islamic studies and Arabic vocal recitation in Om Durman, Sudan, Egypt Ethiopia, Medina, and Mecca. The music event's organizer, Victoria Tackett, explains,

"World music retreats happen on the East Coast and the West Coast, so why not the Gulf Coast?"

Inspired by those retreats and Ellen Kushner's National Public Radio program, 'Sound and Spirit, Music and Ideas that Celebrate the Human Experience,' Tackett thought, "how wonderful it would be to offer something similar here, bringing in the very best leaders of sacred music practice from different religious traditions, all uniting to encourage peace through the arts."

Tackett had never heard the music of the New Orleans Klezmer Allstars until Ellen Kushner featured them on her radio program.

Klezmer Allstar, Glenn Hartman, was then invited to share the world-wide evolutions of sacred Hebrew music at Sound&Spirit MusicFest, and the bands joyful Jewish klezmer music will be featured in the closing celebration. The May 17-19 music retreat begins Friday evening at 7 p.m., continues all day (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) through evening on Saturday (7 p.m.-10 p.m.).

USMGC Civic Chorale to perform Tuesday, May 7

The USM Gulf Coast Civic Chorale will perform "The Spirit of Nationalism" May 7 at the USM Gulf Park Campus in Long Beach at 8 p.m. at the new Advanced Education Center Auditorium. It is free and open to the public. For more information, call the USMGC Division of Arts and Sciences at (228) 865-4511.

Holy Water



Jubilant boaters, some in costume, circle the pleasure yacht Showdown to receive blessings in this scene from a previous year's Blessing of the Fleet in Pass Christian.

2002 Pass Christian Blessing of the Fleet launches Sunday

AN EXTRA SPECIAL

Chairman Leo "Chipper" McDermott has selected judges for the annual Blessing of the Fleet in Pass Christian.

The 26th annual blessing is scheduled in the east end of the Municipal Harbor from noon until 4

p.m. Sunday, April 28. The annual event features live bands, food and novelty vendors, capped by a colorful parade of decorated commercial and recreational boats.

Judging for this year's boat parade are Fire Chiefs from five neighboring

coastal communities. They are Rich Marvil from Pass Christian; David Garcia from Waveland; Bobby Gavagnie, Bay St. Louis; George Bass, Long Beach and Pat Sullivan, Gulfport. Pass Christian Police Chief John Dubois has also agreed to be a judge.

The judges and invited VIPs will be aboard the vessel Showdown, anchored outside the entrance to the harbor.

Miss Gulf Coast pageant

The 2002 National Southern Magnolia Pageant is now accepting applications for contestants for the Miss Gulf Coast preliminary pageant on May 18. There are a total of nine different age groups at the pageant. The teen winner will represent her area at the Miss Teen Mississippi Magnolia State Pageant and the miss winner will represent her area at the Miss Mississippi Magnolia State Pageant November 2002. These winners will receive a \$500 scholarship at the state pageant. The Mrs. winner will represent the her area at the 2003 Mrs. Mississippi Wife of the Year Pageant to be held in

November. Winners ages 0-14 will

advance to the National Southern Magnolia Pageant in the summer of 2002. Call 601/892-3982.



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(228)467-5473

FAX (228)467-0333



WE ACCEPT
VISA
MASTERCARD



The Sea Coast Echo

To Place Your Ad Call:

228-467-5473

Fax Number: 228-467-0333

Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CLASSIFIED RATE SCHEDULE

- 1 insertion, minimum 15 words
- 20¢ per word, minimum \$4.00
- 4 insertions, minimum 20 words
- 14¢ per word, minimum \$13.20
- Combination classified rate (Wed. EXTRA) additional \$2.00

VISA/MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

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CLASSIFIED COPY DEADLINE

INSERTION DAY	DEADLINE
Sunday	Friday NOON
Thursday	Tuesday 4 p.m.
Wednesday EXTRA	Monday 5 p.m.

It is unlawful to directly or indirectly advertise or in any other manner indicate or publicize that the patronage or employment of persons of any particular race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, marital status, or disability are unwelcome, objectionable, not acceptable or not solicited. We will not knowingly accept any employment advertisement which is in violation of the law.

56 Services Offered

ALWAYS HAULING DIRT: Topsoil fill-dirt sand, limestone gravel lot clearing Call GHS 374-6214

B & B DUMP TRUCK & TRAC SERVICE Gravel fill dirt top soil Lots cleared, dozer work 466-4320

B & C LAND SERVICES Dirt hauling, dozer tractor, excavator work Business 228-467-0426 Fax 228-467-9968 Cell 228-806-4499 Cell 228-493-7866

BRAD'S DUMP TRUCK SERVICE Fill dirt, sand, gravel top soil & limestone 467-6763

BULKHEAD WORK SITE WORK DIRT hauling and demolition Call 255-4291 or pager 880-4711

BULKHEAD'S BOAT DOCK'S BOAT launches 30 years experience 463-9451 Joe Bourgeois

CUSTOM CONSTRUCTION House Framing Call Dave @ 586-1108 or Jim @ 255-2597 or 493-2138

DALE'S DIRT SERVICE TRACTOR work, top-soil yard sand, clay gravel, fill dirt, limestone, gravel, Cell 228-697-0727 or 228-255-2656

MASSAGE THERAPY PROFESSIONAL, for stress/pain, Fibromyalgia pregnancy Workmans compensation, Nationally certified Home visits 121 Court St Andorra 467-8252 or 342-0265 Since 1985

MOVING MADE EASY! LOCAL, One way or out of state. Call me and let's make a deal. Brian 255-9274

PREMIUM POWER WASH PRESSURE washing, commercial residential homes, concrete drive thru's Free estimates 255-5704, cell 216-1298

QUALITY PAINTING & FIBERGLASS repair. All phases of fiberglass repair, gelcoat, bottom coats, etc. for your boat. Free estimates Call 466-9275

ROOF STAIN REMOVAL HOUSE Wash, Concrete Cleaning. Free Estimates Call Shingle Shine 255-6111 Your Roof Will Look Like New

SACKETT'S ELECTRICAL SERV. ICE Licensed Bonded & Insured Residential, Commercial & Industrial Weekends & Evenings 467-4955

STUMP GRINDING: \$4.00 AND UP Free estimates 255-8734 Picayune 601-798-7477

SWIMMING POOL HOT TUB service, repair and maintenance Reasonable rates. Duffy 255-0948

WASH GRAVEL \$14.50 PER YARD, pea gravel \$10.50 per yard, limestone \$23.50 per yard, fill dirt \$4.25 per yard, topsoil \$10.00 per yard, fill sand \$5.00 per yard, etc 493-3358 and 255-1106

66 Child Care

CHILD CARE IN MY BSL HOME Weekly, 6:00-6:00, any age 5 years medical experience References available 467-8297

73 Help Wanted

1ST CHOICE HOME FURNISHINGS looking for delivery drivers. Must be 21 years old, clean drivers record, current drivers license, able to lift 70+ lbs. For home delivery, merchandise set up and show room stock. Apply in person, 709 Dunbar Ave Suite 2, between 12:00 & 4:00

CARPENTER'S HELPER'S \$12.00 an hr Laborers \$10 an hr Call J Burke Construction Co 216-1499

CASHIERS NEEDED ALL SHIFTS Apply in person between 9am-2pm Circle K, Hwy 90, Waveland

CLERK/CASHIER GAS STATION Convenient store 4 days/25-28 hrs per week Pleasant working conditions, with incentive. Apply at 127 Hwy 90, Waveland

EARN INCOME PT/FT, around your schedule. Home-based business Full training www.smiletefsgreat.com 888-238-2565

EXPERIENCED DRY PRESSER needed. Good pay, Bay Cleaners, 466-4422 After 6PM 216-7889 ask for Walter

EXPERIENCED FRY COOK, needed. Apply in person, Ricketys Bar & Grill 207 Coleman Ave., Waveland.

IMMEDIATE HIRE PART & FULL-TIME Caregiver, Hope Haven Children's Shelter Over 21, Diploma/GED, good driving record Apply 126 Court St., Bay St. Louis. No calls

MAINTENANCE HELPER NEEDED for light construction, mechanical and yard work. Good drivers record required. Spanish speaking a plus. Call Kevin at 466-9551

NAIL TECH NEEDED, full or part time. Commission + retail, plus bonus. Cutting Edge 467-1366

NOW HIRING! CHEVRON & BLIMP'S, in Diamondhead. All positions available. Please call 1-800-728-2893. Chevron code: 14036, Blimp's code: 23136

PART TIME RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY Call 467-5500. Ask for Reagan

SERVERS & COOKS Various Shifts available. Apply in person, River Dock Restaurant, Hwy 603, Kin.

81 Appliances

PAUL'S APPLIANCE REPAIR SERVICE Only \$19.50 for service calls in Bay/Waveland area. We buy, sell or trade all appliance 90 day warranty on all sales and service 493-0822

REBUILT WASHERS AND DRYERS Fully guaranteed. We have parts and do repair. We also buy used appliances. Bay Washers, 467-6122

82 Antiques, Collectibles

TOP QUALITY ANTIQUES DOUBLE doors, Armoires, American Antique Secretary Vanities, with mirrors, Glassware, stained glass 20349 26th St Long Beach 863-4912

83 Items For Sale

ALUMINUM CARPORT 12x21x10 1/2 Ideal for RV. Easy installation, \$100.00. 228-255-5715

LIVE COCKAHOE MINNOWS Call anytime. 467-6247

ROLEX LADIES DIAM. WATCH, \$2,600 Apr. \$6,700 email for picture Rolex s/s Sub \$2,700 3 hrs away B.R. Louisiana. 225-376-0491

58 Lawn & Garden

A CALL TO CHARLIE'S LAWN & YARD service for free estimates. Grass cutting, weed eating, trash hauling, etc. Call anytime (228) 467-1577 or (228) 467-4266

CUT AND WEED EAT GRASS make offer, 467-8370 or 324-1335. Guaranteed satisfaction!

DERICK'S LAWN SERVICE INCLUDES cutting lawn, weed-eating, & blowing off driveways. Honest & dependable. Call for free estimates 228-466-3917 228-216-0284

LAWN CARE, GRASS CUTTING, weed-eating, driveways blown. Dependable, excellent work. 20 years experience. Limited openings. Call 467-4491. Michael, leave message

RAINBOW LAWN CARE & PRESURE WASHING No jobs to big or small. Free estimates. Call 228-452-7455, or cell 228-342-2021

RELIABLE LAWN SERVICE Yards cut, trimmed. References and free estimates. Call 467-2304

63 Business Opportunities

HOME BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY! Mail order/Internet Earn \$555, part-time/fulltime. Free information 1888-840-5384 www.ASP-HomeBiz.com

SAND & GRAVEL • CLAY GRAVEL

FILL DIRT • TOP SOIL • LIMESTONE

Also Land Clearing, Bulldozer and Tractor Work

255-3082

50 Computers

CUSTOM COMPUTERS \$465 AND up, 1000 mhz and up. Computer and laptop repair. In-shop free troubleshooting. Phone # 228-697-9383

56 Services Offered

AA VINCENT'S DUMP TRUCK SERVICE Fill dirt, sand, top soil, gravel, Dirt spread 467-9273, cell 493-0273

AAA TRASH HAULING AND GRASS cutting 467-1577 or 467-4266, anytime

ABC HOME SERVICES Plumbing, electrical, flooring, fencing, carpentry, roofs & decks, sheet rock And 70 more. Mac 463-2320

Dumptruck & Tractor Service

All types dirt, grading, leveling limestone driveways built and repaired

466-5657 • Cell 760-5657

Pro Movers

"Safe & Courteous" Licensed and Insured Gill Thompson • 601-799-5127 Cell: 601-916-7194 • 1-866-306-6683

ALBERT'S GRASS CUTTING, TREE trimming and removal, trash hauling, weed eating & edging. 467-0049

DENNIS' TRASH HAULING and odd hauling jobs. 466-3126

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84 Furniture

50'S CHROME TABLE WITH 6 chairs \$300.00 466-5296

FOR SALE KING SIZE WATER BED with 5 draws under bed \$150.00 Call 255-0493 or 467-4266

85 Building Materials

CERAMIC TILE TILEWORKS COLLECTION Lauren Marazzi 99¢ to \$1.99 sq ft 985-641-7184 contractor prices Floors, Doors n More, Inc I-10 & Old Spanish Trail, Slidell Next to Levis Chevrolet 2nd Slidell exit

METAL ROOFING SIDING - 6 COLORS galv. to 24ft length 38" wide-28 ga. galv. 99¢ ft Colors \$1.19 ft V-crimp & corrug 64¢ ft Ridge cap rake & corner, purlins \$1.00 ft Roofing/Siding from \$14.90 sq Warehouse Sales, Slidell, La Exit 263 I-10 (800)842-6646

90 Pets

FREE TO GOOD HOME Three well behaved, cute kittens, 7wks old Call 466-0187

LONG BEACH PET & SUPPLY We carry marine and tropical fish, birds, reptiles and small animals 520 E Railroad 865-0037

90 Pets

MALE MALTESE AND MALE York shire Terrier for stud 467-5014

PIT BULL PUPPIES ALL FE MALES \$75.00 Mom & Dad on premises Weekends anytime Weekdays after 4:00p.m. 463-0652

91 Live Stock

YOUNG HEAVY BREED CHICKENS for sale 467-7384

93 Yard Sale

7 FAMILY YARD SALE APRIL 27th Discount Tire Spot 900 Hwy 90 Waveland 8:00a.m.-till Furniture new printer, baby furniture, strollers toys and clothes galore! And many other items

7481 BAYOU LACROUX RD - Sat 27th, 8:00-5:00 To much to mention No early birds

DON'T THROW IT AWAY! Let us haul it away Dardar's free yard sale pickup service 601-798-7477 or 228-255-8734

ESTATE SALE APR 26 - 27 FRI & SAT 9:30 till 4:30 Hancock Mini Storage 5450 Hwy 90 Lots of furniture To much to put out No early birds please

Henley Dumpsters
We offer Commercial Dumpster
Call 255-3082 or Fax 255-8005

COME COOK FOR CASINO MAGIC!
TEAM MAGIC

Our company is growing with more career advancement opportunities available to you at very competitive salaries. Interested in starting a career in food service? We train for all entry level positions!

Cook I: \$7.70 - \$9.60; Cook II: \$8.45 - \$10.50;
Cook III: \$9.30 - \$11.60; Steward: \$7.00 - \$8.70;
Prep Pantry: \$7.00 - \$8.70; Buffet Baker: \$7.70 - \$9.60
and Chef D Cuisine

Positions available for Cooks, levels 1, 2 and 3 at the following outlets:
Jourdan River Grille • Bienville's Bay Buffet • Café Magic

Benefits Include: Medical, Dental, Vision, Paid-Time Off, 401K Plan, On-site Medical Clinic, Free Meals, Basic Term Life Insurance, Employee Assistance Program, Referral Bonuses

We accept applications: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Human Resources
711 Casino Magic Drive, Bay St. Louis
Phone: 228-466-9002
Fax: 228-463-4089
Email: hrdept@pncgaming.com



CASINO & GOLF RESORT
Bay St. Louis
www.casinomagic.com

STOP SEARCHING!
Find it here, in the...

Service Directory

To place your ad call
467-5473

W.E.E.M.S. FAMILY BASEBALL / SOFTBALL TUTORING
Age 7 - College
1st Lesson Free!
Coach Mike Weems
467-7372

SOLAR CONTROL OF MS WINDOW TINTING REDUCES:
• HEAT
• GLARE
• FADING
• EYE STRAIN
3M
OVER 25 YEARS ON THE GULF COAST
875-1956 • 1-800-887-7918

LA DESIGN & BUILD
PLANS DRAWN, CUSTOM HOMES, ADDITIONS
REMODELING BULKHEADS, PERS BACKHOE
WORK TRACTOR WORK, FILL DIRT
LICENSED & BONDED
H 228-255-9077

PETE'S
Lots cleared, fill dirt, top soil, track hoe & dozer work.
255-9727

KELVIN'S AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
All Makes & Models Since 1973
(228) 467-6501 • cell 209-4517
KEVIN SCHULZ Bay St. Louis, MS 39520

390 S. Beach Blvd

CLASSIFIED ADS DIRECTORY

36 Special Notices

SOUND & SPIRIT MUSICFEST MAY 17, 18 & 19. IN WAVELAND Music from Hindu, Buddhist, Sufi, Hebrew, Islamic, Christian Gospel and other traditions. Space is limited. Call 467-6226. Please pre-register.

46 Home Improvement

ADDITIONS, REMODELING Nichols Construction! All Home Repairs Interior/Exterior Painting, Concrete/work/driveways, ETC. Sheet Rock. Finishing blown ceilings 30yrs/Experience Licensed-Bonded Free-Estimates. 467-3130.

ARNOLD'S CONCRETE FINISHING Forming and finishing driveways, walkways, patios, etc. Also available coloring and texturing. Call Thomas. 467-4960.

FOREMAN PROFESSIONAL Roofing: Now servicing all your roofing needs! Free estimates within 24 hours. Licensed, bonded, insured 463-9912

GENERAL CONTRACTOR, ROOFING: carpentry, vinyl siding, additions, painting. Free estimates. Licensed, bonded. 466-4877.

GIPSON'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS 42 yr. resident, 25 yrs experience, licensed, bonded, insured. Repairs, remodeling, additions, vinyl siding, cement work, bath rooms & kitchen. Free estimates, references. All work guaranteed. 255-8367.

HANDYMAN SERVICE REMODELING: building decks, fences, and painting. Call Mr. James 463-0476.

JASPER FAUCETTA HOME IMPROVEMENTS Established 1972. Residential, commercial, new homes, additions, remodeling, vinyl siding, roofing, concrete driveways and foundation repairs, and house leveling. All work guaranteed. State licensed, insured, bonded, references. Free estimates. 467-5845.

ROOFING & SIDING, HOUSE LEVELING: Concrete work, Painting Interior & Exterior. Satisfaction guaranteed. 40 years experience. 467-2306.

SONNY CUEVAS CONSTRUCTION: ADDITIONS new construction, remodeling, roofing, painting, etc. Licensed and bonded, references. 30 years experience, free estimates. 466-9118.

50 Computers

CUSTOM COMPUTERS \$465 AND up, 1000 mhz and up. Computer and laptop repair. In-shop free troubleshooting. Phone # 228-697-9383

56 Services Offered

AA VINCENT'S DUMP TRUCK SERVICE Fill dirt, sand, top soil, gravel, Dirt spread 467-9273, cell 493-0273

AAA TRASH HAULING AND GRASS cutting 467-1577 or 467-4266, anytime

ABC HOME SERVICES Plumbing, electrical, flooring, fencing, carpentry, roofs & decks, sheet rock And 70 more. Mac 463-2320

Dumptruck & Tractor Service All types dirt,

93

Yard Sale

ESTATE SALE, APRIL 26th, 27th & 28th 8:00a.m.-3:00p.m. 56102 Diamondhead Dr. East, Diamondhead, MS. Furniture, crystal, china, coins, golf clubs, clothes, blankets, record albums, collectables, treasures, etc.

HUGE CLOTHING SALE! 100% of proceeds goes to Earth Events, a not-for-profit providing community programs in your area. Deep discounts on thousands of items. Designer label consignment clothing. Open every week until all stock is gone! Wed-Sat 10:00-5:00 Corner of Washington & S. Beach Blvd.

JUNK & TREASURE WHOLE Town Garage Sale/Flea Market Poplarville MS Saturday, May 4th, 2002 Treasure Hunt Maps available from Main Street Merchants 601/795-4070 Vendors Welcome

LOTS OF CLOTHES, ALL SIZES 808 Jackson Blvd., Bay St. Louis 3 Families 8:00am-noon

SAT 27TH, 8:00-2:00 #29 Harrison Rd. off Blue Meadow Fishing gear, salt & sweet water rods, hand & electric tools, antique clock, lots of small furniture and some clothes

WAVELAND ESTATE SALE SATURDAY, 4/27 8:00am-11:00am. No early birds 1020 Shipp St. Dealers welcome Circa 1800's clawfoot dining table primitive furniture & tools, freezer, refrigerator, washer & dryer, depression glass, mowers, vintage kitchen furniture, religious items, 2 seadoos, waverunners, & lots more

YARD SALE SATURDAY 6522 Shawnee St., Jourdan River Shores Stroller, carseat, highchair, baby & toddler items

YARD SALE, 710 WOOD ST., Saturday & Sunday from 9am-11am. Lots of items must go

YARD SALE, SAT. 27TH, 9:00-1:00, 111 Mollere Drive. Furniture, clothes, great stuff

YARD SALE, SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH, 9:00am-12:25pm Longo St., Waveland, (off Nicholson Ave.)

YARD SALE FRIDAY & SATURDAY Waveland 401 Merritt St., Off Jeff Davis 8am-2pm.

YARD SALE SATURDAY 27TH 8:00am - 2:00pm 6057 Red Bud Dr., off of Texas Flat Rd. in the Kiln. Lots of baby stuff, men & ladies clothes, dishes, fishing poles, kids toys, etc. Follow signs off 603

YARD SALE, SATURDAY 27TH, 7:00am until Rain or shine 7315 Ahi Drive, Diamondhead.

96

Wanted To Buy

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, TOOLS, dolls, furniture. One piece or house full. Call 467-2628 days.

CASH FOR UNWANTED ITEMS BEFORE garage sale, moving, Estate disposal or cleaning out. Buying Eric Brack households, tools, Antiques, sheds/garage items, Wood furniture etc. Call 467-4857 if we can help you out. Also cleaning out sheds/garages for Cash/Contents. All messages returned promptly.

WE BUY OLD WATCHES, WRIST, & pocket, rings, gold, estate pieces. SCash\$ Bayou Jewelers. 466-0425

128

Boats & Motors

17 FT. 1978 BOSTON WHALER, 1990, 130HP Yamaha w/trailer. \$5,000/obo 228-467-5132.

BOAT FOR SALE, 19 FT. GALAXY, 4 cylinder, Mercury I/O, runs great needs deck. \$2750. Call 467-4266 or 255-0493

SEARAY --1984 SRV 210 CADDY, 21 ft., very good condition. Includes marine radio, fish finder, 8 life vests, water skis, all safety equipment, 2 new batteries. Inboard 260 Mercruiser V8, Trail Rite steel trailer w/surge brakes. Always covered and inside storage. Less than 900 hours. First \$5500.00 takes it. 228-255-0418, cell-228-216-1298.

136

Automobiles

1990 CORVETTE, 80,000 MI., WHITE w/red interior. \$11,000/obo. 1975 GMC, 1 TON, dually, 1990, 454CI, \$4,000/obo. 228-467-5132

1993 DODGE CARAVAN, runs good. \$2500, firm. 1994 Ford Lariat, F250, ext. cab, dual wheel capability, \$3000. 467-9765 or 324-8227.

2 NISSAN, 280, V6, A 1979 and a 1982, both \$1,000. Call 469-0676 or 342-1174.

2000 FORD MUSTANG, RED, like new, \$214 a mo. Jimmy Stockstill Motors 1-800-798-9133.

136

Automobiles

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES

The following vehicles will be sold 30 days after the first publication:

1990 240 SX NISSAN VIN# JN1HS36P1LW130294

1995 CHEVY 1/2 TON TRUCK VIN# 1GTEC14Z5S2519507

1988 ISUZU TROOPER 4X4 VIN# JACCH58E9J7903497

1994 CHEVY CAPRICE VIN# 1G1BL52W2RR104277

1994 JEEP CHEROKEE VIN# 1J4FT6854RL187193

1991 FORD ESCORT VIN# 1FAP11J2MW299099

LACOSTE WRECKER STORAGE 16221 SAM FAVRE RD KILN, MS 39556 228-255-9282

4 18. 4 25. 5 2 2002

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The following vehicles will be sold 30 days after the first publication:

1988 Buick Park Ave VIN# 1G4CW51C3J4670215

Chevy Cavalier VIN# 1G1AC69PXE1J3068

1996 Pontiac Transport VIN# 1GMDU06E7T210473

1982 Lincoln Town Car VIN# 1LNB94F2CY642650

19 Ft. Sport Craft Boat w/Trailer BOAT VIN# MIZ26415F367

TRAILER# 3617922

1982 Ford Pickup VIN# 1FTCF10F4CPA58565

1987 Chevy Chevette VIN# 1G1TB61C5HA115811

BULLDOG TOWING, INC 9028 LADNER STREET BAY ST. LOUIS, MS 39520 228-467-3287

4/25, 5/2, 5/9, 2002

JIMMY STOCKSTILL MOTORS, Picayune, has been recently selected by 2 of the biggest lenders in the U.S. that handle credit problems on nice cars and trucks. If you have a steady job and haven't hurt your credit by putting credit applications in a dealers that can't get you financed, we can almost guarantee you financing. Ask for special finance dept. 1-800-798-9133.

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147

Apartments For Rent

NICE 1 BR NEAR DOWNTOWN BSL, paid util \$450, new carpet 466-2631

OAK PARK APARTMENTS 2 BR, \$450 month Five minutes to beach. Casinos and shopping centers 467-6882

SEMI FURNISHED APARTMENT All utilities included Jourdan River Shores, on water \$600/month+deposit 255-5967

STUDIO APARTMENT ELECTRIC, water included, \$350/month, \$300/deposit, pet-free 467-3320

148

Mobile Homes For Rent

1 OR 2 BEDROOM FURNISHED. All utilities paid Weekly/monthly Laundromat Pet free environment Near Port Bienville/Nasa Pearlinton, MS 228-533-7001

10X50, TRAILER, 1033 Blue Meadow Rd \$250/month. Needs some work, quiet 466-0643

TRAILERS FOR RENT CALL SUE 255-7180

150

Unfurn. Houses Rent

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3BR/1BA KITCHEN, LIVING ROOM \$600 mo. Call 601-799-1864.

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Lots/Acreage

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159

Houses For Sale

2 BED 2 BATH HOME ON CANAL. Beautiful bay views, close to Casino Magic, quite Bay St. Louis location, pet free, smoke free, \$850.00 per month, deposit required, long term lease preferred. For application call Bruce 1-800-398-0454.

2 STORY, 3BR/2-1/2BA. Also one small office or baby room. Large one car garage, 8x28 balcony off master bdrm, large fenced yard. Double unit, central air/heat. \$125,000. 912 Daniel St. Waveland, MS. 228-467-5557 or 467-6527.

3 BED 2 BATH HOME ON DEEP water canal over 2200 square feet, executive area of Diamondhead. Smoke free, pet free, prefer long term lease \$1300.00 per month, deposit required. For application call Bruce 1-800-398-0454.

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Summer Rentals

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Houses For Sale

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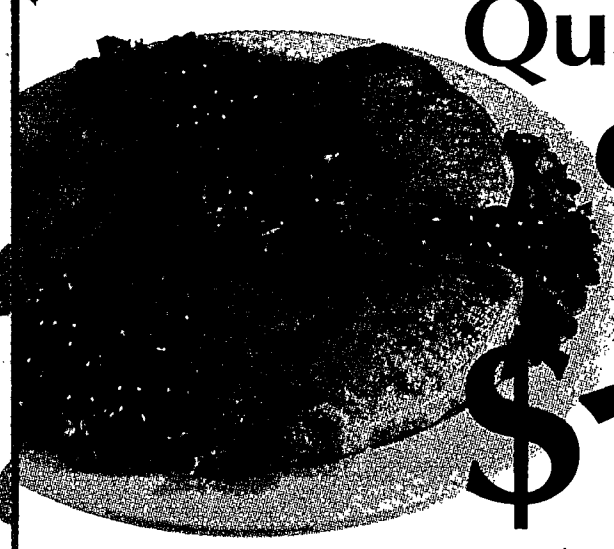
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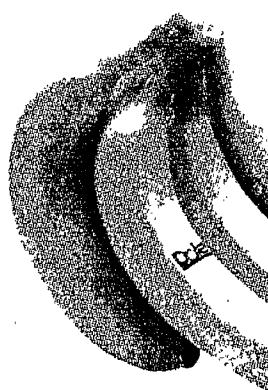
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HOT TO PRINT!!**Assorted Flavors
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Two day sale only Friday & Saturday. While supplies last. Some items in limited supply. No rain checks.

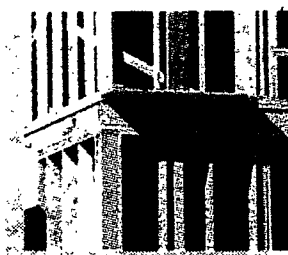
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A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE SEA COAST ECHO

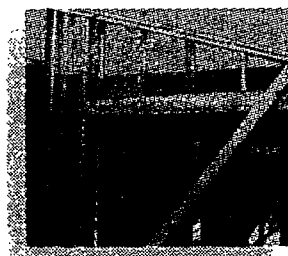
Home & Garden Shows



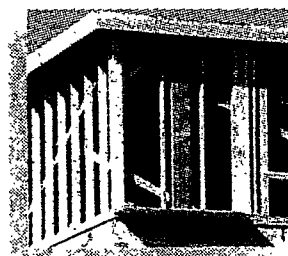
2002



2002 Home & Garden Show at Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum.



What's hot and what's not in the industry, and how to maximize \$\$\$.



Helpful hints on roofing, flooring, remodeling, gardens & landscaping, and much more ...

A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE SEA COAST ECHO • THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2002

Home & Garden Show this weekend at Coliseum

NAHB Home Builders Care 2002

Home Builders Care is the National Association of Home Builders' award-winning nationwide campaign to encourage member community outreach and recognize the valuable and diverse contributions builders make to our communities every day. In 2000, more than 700 Home Builders Care projects were registered.

Home Builders Care participants make a difference through construction, repair, renovation and beautification projects; scholarships and grants; galas and giving campaigns; garage sales, raffles and auctions; toy, food, clothing and blood drives; and competitions, tournaments and races.

Three-in-One Advantage

To become a member of NAHB, you need to join the local home builders association in your area. By joining at the local level, you automatically become a member of, and receive full membership benefits from, all three levels of the NAHB federation: local, state (where a state association exists), and national. The more you access your membership benefits and actively participate within NAHB, the more advantages of your three-in-one membership you will realize.

NAHB Benefit Features Publications

Knowledge is your best defense in this rapidly changing industry. NAHB keeps you up to date on all the news, numbers, people and issues that affect your business, so you can keep your competitive edge.

- Free subscription to

The Home & Garden Show 2002 takes place at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum and Convention Center this Saturday and Sunday. Exhibitors will be moving displays in on Friday.

Admission: Adults, \$4

Children under 17 free

**Saturday, April 27: Open to the public,
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Sunday, April 28, noon-5 p.m.

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Education

NAHB is a nationally-recognized source of quality education that is affordable, accessible, timely, and relevant. We offer hundreds of educational opportunities in a variety of formats to meet your needs.

- Year-round national and regional workshops, seminars, and conferences covering everything from building codes and standards and OSHA regulations to critical state and local issues and

new construction techniques

- Professional designation programs like the Certified Graduate Remodeler TM, Certified New Home Sales Professional (CSP), Registered in Apartment Management (RAM) and Member, Institute of Residential Marketing

(MIRM) designations

• Specialized education like the Custom Builder Symposium and the Master Builders Series to show you dozens of ways to stay on top of the latest trends in business and financial management, marketing, computerization, personnel issues, employee relations, and customer service

• Invitation to attend the International Builders' Show with 200-plus educational sessions and the Remodelers' Show with over 80 individual education seminars, workshops, and roundtable discussions

Recognition

Imagine matters. Enhance your own credibility and visibility and help project a better image for the entire industry by participating in NAHB's recognition pro-

grams.

• Nationally-recognized awards competitions including the Sales and Marketing Council's Million Dollar Circle Awards, NAHB Associate of the Year, and Remodeler of the Year

• Public awareness campaigns including Associate Member Appreciation Month, New Homes Month, National Remodeling Month, and Building Systems Week

Information

To stay on top, you need to stay informed. NAHB studies economic, demographic, technological, legislative, and regulatory issues as well as consumer trends that have an impact on the building industry and your business. When you stay informed through NAHB, you'll be

NAHB-PAGE 10

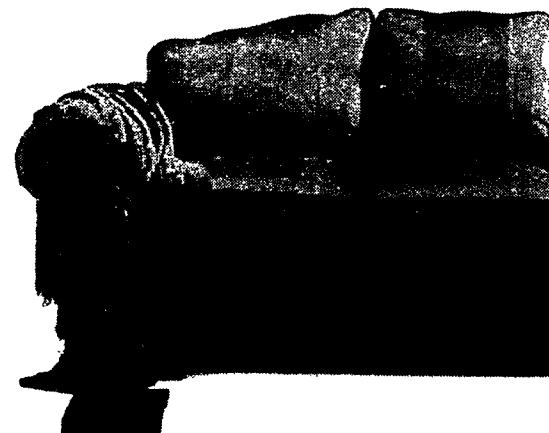


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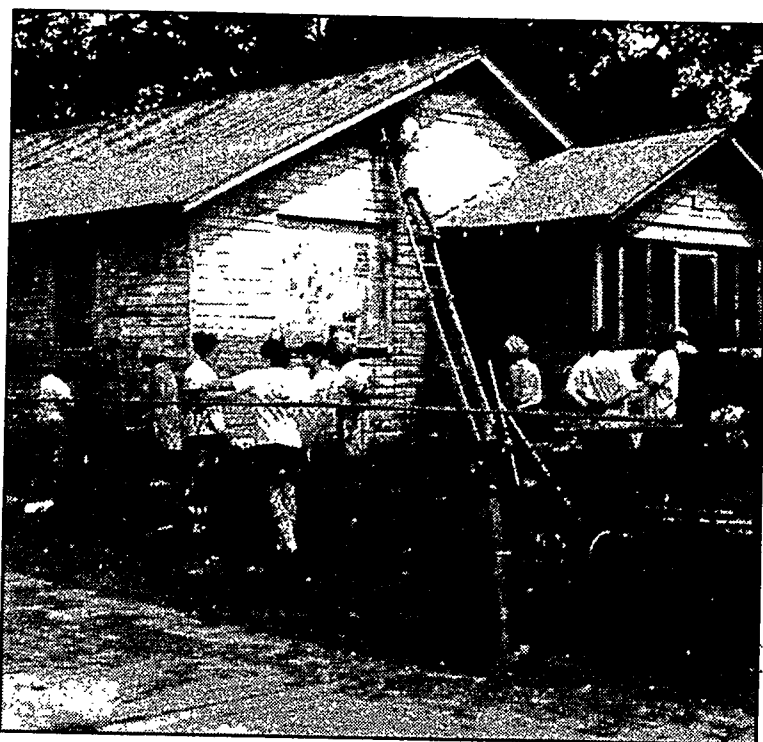


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Previous Christmas in April projects have helped more than 28 Hancock County families.

'Christmas in April' gets under way Saturday

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

In a nation that has seen many different types of heroes in recent months, about 100 more will convene in Hancock County on Saturday.

They are volunteers with Christmas in April, and their mission is to rehabilitate the homes of seven Hancock County residents during National Rebuilding Day on April 27.

They will be part of an effort encompassing nearly two million volunteers in all 50 states.

"We help the elderly and the physically challenged who are on fixed incomes," said Becky Rotundo, chair, Christmas in April Hancock County.

"Often, they have to choose between buying food and medicine and making home repairs. Many are in danger of losing their houses. We make it possible for them to live independently a little longer."

The non-profit program brings together corporate and government sponsors, skilled professionals and unskilled volunteers for a day of electrical, plumbing, painting, cleaning and general sprucing up.

The program has been part of Hancock County for six years, and post-9/11 interest in Christmas in April remains high, Rotundo said.

"This year, even more than in the past, people are looking for ways they can make a difference in the world and in their communities," she said. "Christmas in April makes a sustainable impact right in our back yard."

"It's a great feeling to give someone their home back," agreed volunteer and house captain Jack Puleo of Bay St. Louis.

"Many of our homeowners are surprised that perfect strangers want to do this for them. Most projects end with big smiles and a round of hugs."

Puleo has volunteered with Christmas in April Hancock County for four years. On Saturday he will serve as house captain for a project on Bookter Street in Bay St. Louis, sponsored by Navy activities at Stennis Space Center.

The home is a typical Christmas in April project. The owner is disabled. The bathroom floor is rotted out. The bedroom ceiling is dam-

CHRISTMAS--PAGE 10

Bayou Jeweler & Watch Repair
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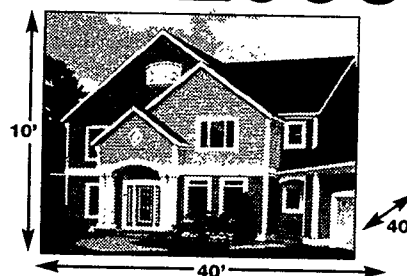


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Landscaping guide for potential home buyers

If you are considering buying a new home, then you've probably already started your research. According to Mark Whitelaw of the Texas Nursery & Landscape Association, although most prospective home buyers are sure to check out the sizes of rooms, functions of appliances and the quality of the plumbing fixtures of homes they are considering, too few check the landscape for potential costly problems, which can take some of the excitement out of getting a new home.

Before you enter the whirlwind experience of buying a home, consult Whitelaw's checklist for oft-overlooked landscaping problems which may help you negotiate a better buying price, or cause you to pass up a house altogether.

DRAINAGE

Improper drainage can lead to weakened foundations, loose facing materials, rotted supporting wall studs and base plates, structural damage from insects and poor growing conditions for landscape plants. In short, drainage is one of the most



A HOME'S LANDSCAPING can greatly affect its value.

important landscaping concerns you should consider before purchasing a home.

Be particularly aware of surrounding terrain which may cause rainwater runoff

into your landscape.

Look for cracks on interior and exterior walls and along the foundation's perimeter for clues to drainage problems.

Check rain gutters for good drainage and adequate size to handle the rainfall in the area.

Be sure that solid surface areas like driveways, patios and walks are graded away from the house.

RETAINING WALLS

The main purpose of retaining walls is to prevent unnecessary soil erosion. Replacing a retaining wall can cost you tens of thousands of dollars, so check these items carefully:

What type of materials are used in the retaining wall and how old are they? Creosote railroad ties last about 15 years; CCA-treated landscape timbers about 20 years. Masonry can last for

centuries if properly installed, but missing mortar may mean the wall is structurally weak.

Walls higher than 4 feet should be engineered by a professional. Are engineering drawings available and certified by an approving authority?

Is there adequate drainage through the walls? Solid masonry requires "weep" (drainage) holes equally spaced along the base of the wall.

FENCES

Fences are the ideal tool for security and privacy. Some municipal codes require locking fences for

LANDSCAPE-- PAGE 5

Spring Preview

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Landscape -- improve value

Continued from Page 4

homes with swimming pools. Here are some other questions to keep in mind:

What is the general repair of the fence? Are posts, rails, pickets and hardware free of rot and rust? Are wood products made from rot-resistant timber?

Is there a clear space between the bottom of the fence and the soil's surface? Wood fencing will wick moisture into the pickets if they come in contact with the soil and metal fencing may rust more quickly.

TREES, SHRUBS, GROUNDCOVERS AND LAWNS

With new homes, many landscape plantings (called softscape) may be too close to the foundation. This can cause future problems when the plants (and roots) mature.

Full-sized, quality landscape trees should be no closer than 15 feet to the foundation or concrete drives and walks. Fast-growing and shallow-rooted trees should be much further.

Watch for messy fruit, nut- or seed-producing trees close to driveways, walkways, pools, ponds and patios, or plants that can outgrow their locations.

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

Water - Pools, fountains, ponds and bird baths are attractive features for your landscape, but they may also require a lot of maintenance. Check these features carefully to decide whether you want the additional effort

and expense.

Lighting - Lighting can provide security and beauty, but some systems can cost a lot of money if repairs are needed.

Unwanted landscape visitors - Some environments are conducive to unwanted visitors from nature. Your potential home could be visited by deer, raccoons, coyotes and other wildlife.



Enjoy the outdoors in style — your style with the DIY Gazebo.

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Imagine designing and building your own shade house in just a few hours. Now you can do just that with the DIY Gazebo — an affordable, easy-to-build shade house perfect for the do-it-yourselfer.

The DIY Gazebo from Fiskars Outdoor Leisure Products requires only four 4 by 4 by 8 posts, four 4 by 4 by 10 boards and eight hex screws to construct the most basic unit. You design and build the legs and any decorative accessories you can dream up. Then, top your masterpiece with the Fiskars® roofing system that blocks up to 90 percent of harmful UV rays and lowers temperatures up to 15

degrees. The roofing system fits structures from 8 feet by 10 feet up to 10 feet by 10 feet — you choose the best size. Canopies are available in assorted color combinations.

The roofing system can be found at many home improvement centers. For more information about the DIY Gazebo, contact Fiskars Outdoor Leisure Products Customer Service at (407) 889-9733 or visit www.fiskars.com.

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Outdoor hearths 'cool' for summer entertaining

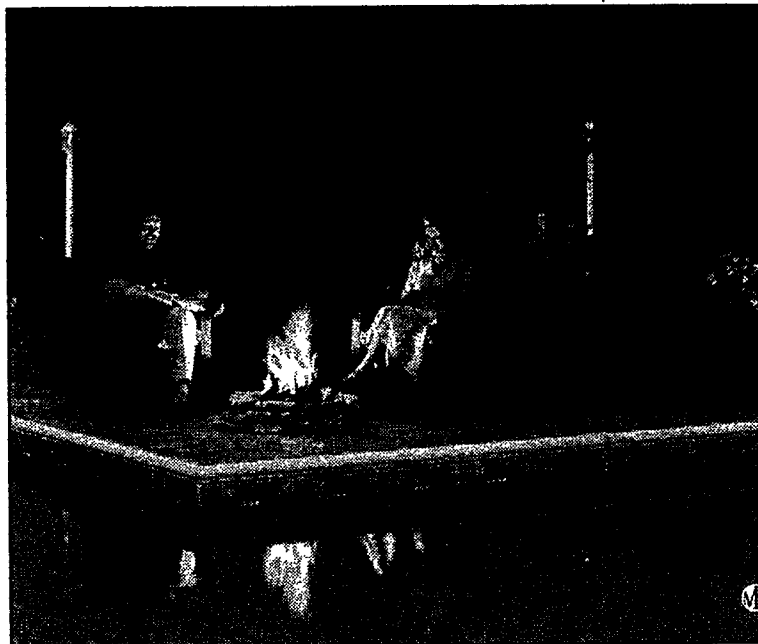
(MS) — After the sun goes down on a day of summer fun, nothing is more relaxing than spending the evening hanging out with family and friends around a warm, crackling fire.

But, what if you want to build that fire in your backyard?

According to the Hearth Products Association (HPA), there are now many different types of convenient and attractive outdoor hearth products to fit every setting and décor that make the ambiance of a fire possible for summer evenings in the backyard.

"Outdoor entertaining is one of the hottest consumer trends," says Carter Keithley, president and CEO of the Hearth Products Association. "And now, there are outdoor hearth products for almost any outdoor entertaining situation — in the backyard, by the pool, at the beach, tailgating, and even camping."

The newest selection of outdoor hearth products are available in multiple looks and finishes, including stainless steel. Some of the avail-



Now there are outdoor hearth products for almost any outdoor entertaining situation — in the backyard, by the pool, at the beach, tailgating, and even camping.

able items include:

- Wood fire pits: Mobile, elevated wood-burning fire pits that come complete with cover, grilling rack and optional teak table tops as well as water-resistant canvas covers.

- Gas fire pits: Portable fire pits that create a "wood-

like" fire and burn natural gas or propane. They can also be turned on and off with the touch of a switch.

- Fireplaces: Outdoor fireplaces combine the look and feel of a living room fireplace. There is even a new indoor/outdoor fireplace that acts both as a fireplace and

window, allowing an outdoor view of an indoor fire.

- Chimineas: Updated versions of the traditional chiminea that offer Old

World charm with modern conveniences like natural gas conversion, copper hearth ledge, optional fuel grate, ash box and cooking grill.

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Maximize your money with a wise investment in home remodeling

ECHO STAFF REPORT

Remodeling your home, possibly your most valuable asset, is a smart choice. A great deal of the money you invest in home improvements is added to the resale value of your home.

According to Remodeling Magazine, the top remodeling investments are:

- A minor kitchen remodel — you can expect to recoup 94 percent of your investment when you sell your

home.

- Bathroom remodeling — resale value 77 percent.

- Deck addition — resale value 73 percent.

- Siding replacement — resale value 71 percent.

- Home-office addition — resale value 69 percent.

- Window replacement — resale value 68 percent.

It pays to remodel, not only if you sell your home, but while you live there you can enjoy the luxury of your beautiful new improvements.

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Building your new home from the top: Choose quality roofing shingles that will last for years

Usually when consumers buy a new home or car, they do a little investigating to make sure they're getting the best value for their money. The same is true for many products that cost hundreds, even thousands of dollars — appliances, schools, televisions and even computers.

When it comes to home repairs though, many homeowners will take a contractor's recommendation and not fully investigate different product options. Take roofing shingles for example. Many times when a roofing contractor gives a quote to replace aging or damaged shingles, he'll submit an estimate that includes a basic 25- or 30-year shingle. Often, the contractor will use the lowest-priced shingles or use shingles from a preferred manu-



To ensure you're getting proven quality, ask for shingles with the UL label specifying ASTM D3462 standards for tear resistance.

facturer.

The problem occurs because many consumers

think "shingles with 25- or 30-year warranty durations must all be alike" or "the

heavier the shingle, the longer it is going to last." While logic may lead many to believe these statements, they are not completely accurate.

WHAT DETERMINES A QUALITY SHINGLE?

The most commonly used asphalt roofing shingle in the United States is made with a fiber glass base. In addition to the fiber glass base, shingles are also manufactured using asphalt, filler and colored rock granules. In some instances, manufacturers may use additional overlay pieces on the shingles to give them a dimensional look. The quality of each of these elements is what sets the high-performance shingles apart from lower-quality imitations, not necessarily the

product's weight, as some will tell you.

So, how can you be more informed about your shingle purchase without getting out the chemistry book? First, you need to know what you don't want your shingles to do: blow off, crack or tear during severe weather conditions. A shingle's ability to withstand cracking and tearing is the most important benchmark to measuring its quality.

The highly respected American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) has developed voluntary guidelines (standard D3462) for shingle performance in varying weather conditions with regard to tear resistance. While meeting these guide-

SHINGLES—PAGE 8

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A lasting solution to roofing worries: Metal

Q: After just a few years, my roof shingles are curled, cracked and stained with fungus. I'm ready for something better, and I've heard that metal roofing eliminates these problems. Should I consider a metal roof?

A: Yes. Metal roofing is a great alternative to the common problems you're experiencing with traditional roofing shingles. Metal roofing does cost more upfront than typical shingles or tile, but it's actually cheaper because it lasts many times longer, requires less maintenance,

and provides a better appearance (and greater value) for your home. Metal roofing has advantages in every climate, especially in areas with threats of fires or airborne sparks, severe storms, or extreme heat or cold. Some metal roofs even can be installed directly over your existing roof, preventing the added cost and mess of a tear-off.

Q: Won't a metal roof make my house hotter in the summer?

A: It depends on the metal. Steel absorbs and transfers

the heat of the sun, but not all metals do. Aluminum, for example, reflects radiant heat; that's why NASA uses aluminum to shield satellites in space, where there's no atmosphere to scatter the heat of the sun.

One metal roofing manufacturer had its aluminum roofing product, called Rustic Shingle, tested by the Florida Solar Energy Center. The center found it to reduce attic heat gain by up to 34 percent more than traditional roofing materials. This can add up to big savings on your utility bills. If you decide to use a metal roof that is not aluminum, you will need to install a radiant-heat barrier in your attic to get any energy savings.

Q: I don't like the "industrial" look of flat metal roofing with vertical lines. Are

there alternatives?

A: You are describing "standing seam" roofing, so named for the vertical seams that stand up between the panels. And, yes, there are many alternatives. Most popular are the products that look like natural wood shakes, tile or slate. These offer a traditional, yet distinctive, appearance with all the benefits of metal roofing.

Q: How will I know that I'm buying a quality metal roof?

A: A quality metal roof will have a Kynar® PVDF or Hylar™ PVDF finish, known to architects and engineers as the best for lasting color and protection. Also, a metal roof should be designed to allow for expansion and contraction caused by temperature changes.

Shingles

Continued from Page 7

lines can help assure you of a quality product, it does not guarantee total problem prevention.

Another thing to be aware of is that shingles made by many manufacturers do not meet ASTM standards, yet some may claim it. How, then, can you tell the difference between pretenders and proven quality?

This is where Underwriters Laboratories comes into play. Underwriters Laboratories (UL) independently tests shingles and certifies whether they meet the ASTM requirements. This is your guarantee and proof that the shingles you are buying meet ASTM's high standards.

WHAT ABOUT A REPUTABLE ROOFER?

Choosing quality shingles for your roof is only half of your research requirement when tackling a re-roofing project. Now, it is time to figure out how to choose a reputable roofing contractor.

There are several very important aspects to consider. Does the company carry comprehensive liability insurance and worker's compensation insurance? This is to protect you, the homeowner, from any liability should an accident occur while the roofing work is being completed.

Another very important thing is the contractor's track record. Ask for about 10 job-site references in your area that you can visit. Although this is more than the normal three that most people ask for, it gives you the choice of which homes you want to visit. Also, be sure to ask for job references that are at least two years old. This allows you to investigate projects that have had a chance to have something go wrong. If nothing has gone wrong, then you can figure that the roofer does good work. If problems arose, how were they handled? The answers will tell you a lot about that contractor.

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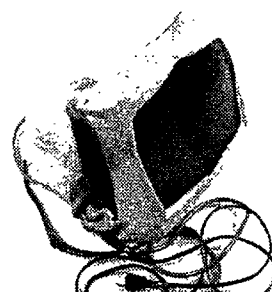
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Heat, cool and save energy with a heat pump

Is there a heat pump in your future? If your home isn't already equipped with a heat pump, you may want to consider one of these versatile devices that not only heat your home in winter and cool your home in summer, but can save you money on your monthly energy bills.

A heat pump is neither miraculous nor new. The first factory-made units rolled off production lines more than three decades ago. Millions of heat pumps are in operation in every section of the country — schools, offices, hotels, stores and industrial plants, as well as homes.

Why the continued, and even increasing, popularity of heat pumps?

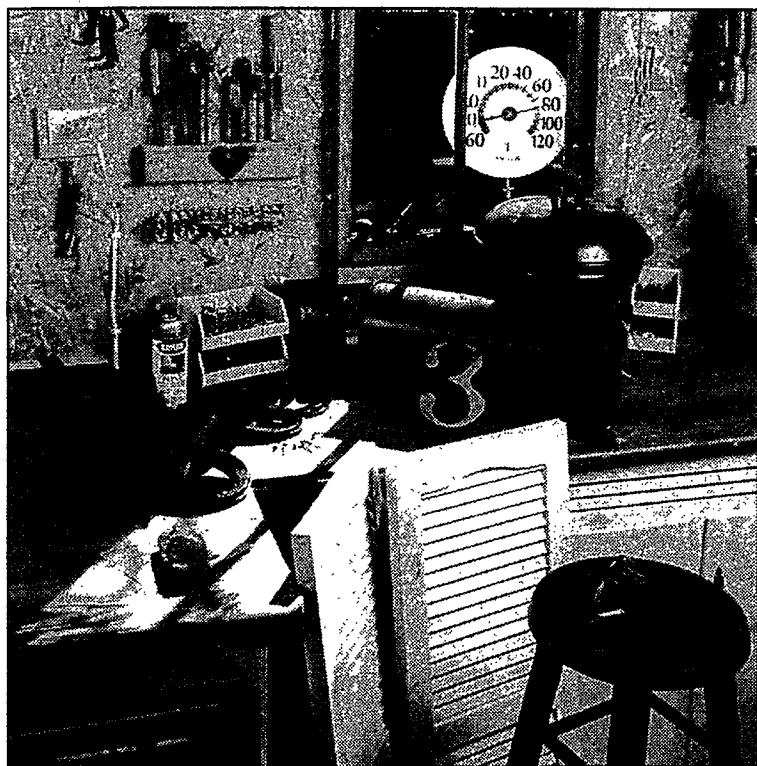
It's because design improvements have created a new generation of heat pumps that offer reliability, as well as efficiency and energy savings.

A heat pump replaces both furnace and central air-conditioning equipment with a single heating-cooling system, thereby "pumping" heat into the structure in winter and into the outdoors in summer. In summer, an air-to-air pump operates as a standard air conditioner, collecting heat from the air in your

home and expelling it outside. In winter, the process is reversed so that the heat pump collects heat from outside air to warm the air inside your home.

If you would like to learn more about how a heat pump can fit into your life — warming, cooling, conserving energy and saving money — write to the Air-Conditioning and

Refrigeration Institute, 4301 North Fairfax Drive (No. 425), Dept. HT96, Arlington, Va. 22203, for a free brochure, "Heat, Cool, Save Energy With a Heat Pump."



Believe it or not, simple spray paint can make short work of some big jobs.

'Weekend warriors' are wielding spray paint

Weekend Warriors Are Wielding Spray Paint

It's as easy as point and spray. That's why today's busy homeowners are turning to aerosol paint for quick solutions to revitalize everything in and around the house. Every do-it-yourselfer can find unexpected inspiration in a wide choice of paints formulated for home projects. With the push of a button,

anything old can look new again — for pennies, and in no time at all.

Weekend warriors can make a design difference at home with these simple projects and tips:

- Patio furniture — If metal furniture has seen better days, simply spray paint it a bright new color with

SPRAY--PAGE 11

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Christmas -- in April

Continued from Page 3

aged. The wheelchair ramp is mildewed and slippery. Drafty windows cause high heating and cooling bills.

"There's always more that needs doing, but our priorities are to make the structure safe and comfortable, then if we have the resources, we make it look nice," Puleo said.

According to Rotundo, the average Christmas in April Hancock County renovation costs around \$800, while donations usually total less than \$5,000 annually. The chapter renovates five to seven houses each year.

"We often have to turn away projects that are too big because we don't have the resources," she said. "Saying no is the hard part."

While the annual one-day home renovation blitz takes place on the last Saturday in April, planning for the project begins the previous October.

A small, but dedicated, core of volunteers works tirelessly to solicit and review applications for home renovation projects; seek donations; coordinate with local businesses, government

agencies, and civic groups; organize publicity; interview homeowners; assess projects; and gather materials.

"It's a full-time job," admitted Rotundo, who is also a public affairs specialist for the Naval Research Laboratory.

"It's been a very rewarding experience," she said of her two-year stint chairing Hancock County's Christmas

in April program.

"Like most of our volunteers, I just hang in year after year. I like to think that what goes around comes around eventually."

For 2002 sponsors and donors include The Navy at Stennis Space Center; GE Plastics; Diamondhead Business and Professionals; Main Street Methodist Church; St. Rose de Lima

Catholic Church; City of Bay St. Louis; Kiwanis Club of Bay St. Louis; Whitney Bank; Koenig Stainless, Inc.; Casino Magic Bay St. Louis; GM&R Construction; Public Relations Association of Mississippi; Mississippi Beach Chapter; the Peoples Bank; Cellular South; and Hancock Medical Center.

Christmas in April is part of a national effort,

Rebuilding Together with Christmas in April.

In 2001, about 1.8 million volunteers renovated over 8,050 houses and non-profit facilities across America. The Hancock County chapter is an offshoot of Christmas in April Harrison County.

For more information or to volunteer or make a donation, please contact Becky Rotundo at (228) 688-5328.

NAHB

Continued from Page 2

among the first to know about changes ahead and how you can profit from them.

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- Toll-free Member Service Center assistance to help you with any of your questions

Representation

Alone, your voice may be heard, but how loudly and with what respect? As a part of NAHB, however, your voice becomes a powerful instrument of change and influence.

- Lobbying efforts on your behalf to support pro-housing initiatives and fight burdensome regulations

- Influence with media, government agencies, and industry coalitions to enhance the image and conditions of the industry and your business

- Industry clout for a powerful voice with our nation's leaders on the issues that matter to you

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Increase your marketplace opportunities and get your name out there! NAHB offers both for, mal and informal

networking events and, services to help you meet and greet potential clients, business partners, and friends.

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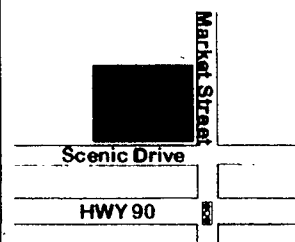
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Simplify flooring selections for your new home

Buying a new home and selecting all its various components can be an exciting, but overwhelming experience. New homeowners are asked to make decisions about everything from cabinetry and appliances to bath fixtures and countertops. Then they must sort through all the various options in each category.

According to Mario Gonzalez, Mannington Wood Floors marketing director, you can simplify the process by doing your homework before you get in the builder's showroom. This way, you'll understand which items will have the greatest effect upon your satisfaction with your new home. For many new homeowners, flooring is just such a "make or break" option.

"Wood flooring is a great decorating choice and adds value to a home more than any other flooring type. As it grows in popularity with new homeowners, builders are making more and more selections available, so it's important that homeowners choose the wood flooring that suits their lifestyle needs, and how

much foot traffic or use each room will be supporting," says Gonzalez.

He suggests the following:

1. Know the difference between engineered wood floors and traditional solid wood floors. The advantage of engineered wood flooring is that it can be installed, by a variety of methods, anywhere in the home from basement to attic. Comprised of several layers of cross-grained hardwood plies, engineered wood floors are highly stable and less affected by seasonal weather changes. So, homeowners can expect to experience fewer incidences of gaping between boards than with solid wood floors — an important consideration in areas of the country with large temperature and humidity swings. Also, the beautiful, wide variety of wood species, like oak and maple, designer colors, and consistent factory finishes are highly complementary to a wide range of traditional and contemporary decor motifs.

2. Consider which rooms of your home will be appropriate for wood flooring. Today's

engineered wood floors feature no-wax, stain-resistant finishes and can be appropriate for every room in a house, except for full baths. If your lifestyle includes heavy traffic through certain rooms or

if you have pets and young children, select the construction, color and finish that is best suited for heavy use.

3. Know your gloss levels. High-gloss wood floors are gorgeous additions to any

home, and some homeowners simply prefer the elegant high-shine look. They are, however, more suited to "easier living" than a semi-gloss or satin-finish wood floor, which

Spray

Continued from Page 9

Krylon Interior/Exterior Paint. Remember to remove grease and dirt with a mild detergent and let dry first. If there's rust, spray Rust Tough® Rust Fix directly onto the surface. It will chemically convert rust to a black waterproof primer and stop future rust formation. Try painting the mailbox, or your house number, too. Use unexpected colors for impact, like rich plum or pacific blue.

• In the garden — It's easy to design garden rows and borders or foundation and patio locations with Krylon Lawn and Garden Marking Paint. The innovative water-based paint creates temporary white lines that easily wash away and allows homeowners to mark grass, dirt, and stone surfaces when

designing landscapes, pathways or excavations.

• Barbecue grill — It starts looking old quickly, but don't run out to buy a new one. With Krylon BBQ & Stove Paint, you've got it covered. It's specially formulated to withstand high heat.

• On the porch or anywhere you need a fresh look indoors, infuse home furnishings with a new hue. Dust off your wicker furniture, an old shelf, hutch or bookcase. Try traditional decorator colors, like hunter green and sun yellow ... or bold contemporary hues, like grape and pistachio, for eye-catching accents.

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Favorite Room in the House

The kitchen so often has a way of serving as the family meeting place, common room and entertainment center. Perhaps it's because this is the room where meals are cooked and eaten that it radiates a feeling of emotional warmth and coziness. As a result, a crucial selling point for your home very well may be the kitchen. Prospective buyers often desire modern appliances, durable countertops and an airy, functional space. If you've considered remodeling an area of the house to help increase its propensity to sell, the kitchen might be a good place to start. Photo courtesy of "Great Kitchens: At Home With America's Top Chefs" (The Taunton Press), by E. Whitaker, C. Mahoney, and W. Jordan; photography by Grey Crawford.

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through networking and sharing ideas with peers to help you find proven solutions to everyday challenges.

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Joining NAHB: A Toll-Free Call Does It All

To become a member of NAHB, call our Member Service Center toll-free at 800-368-5242, ext. 0. One of our customer service specialists will give you the contact information for your local home builders association. Once you join your local association, you're a full member of the NAHB national federation! Your dues payment to your local association covers your local, state (where a state association exists) and national membership dues as well.

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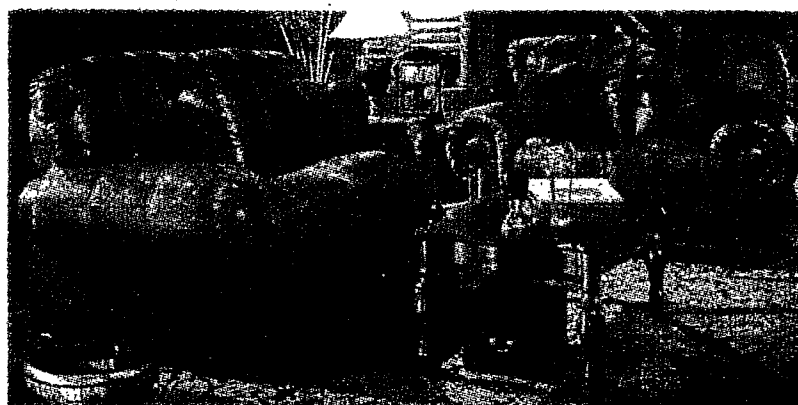
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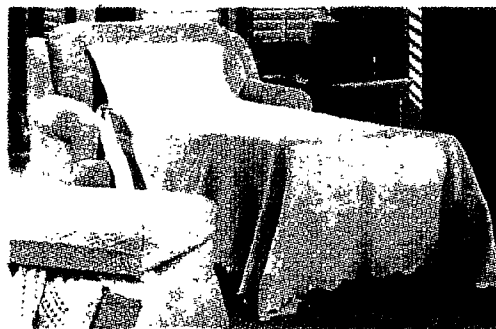
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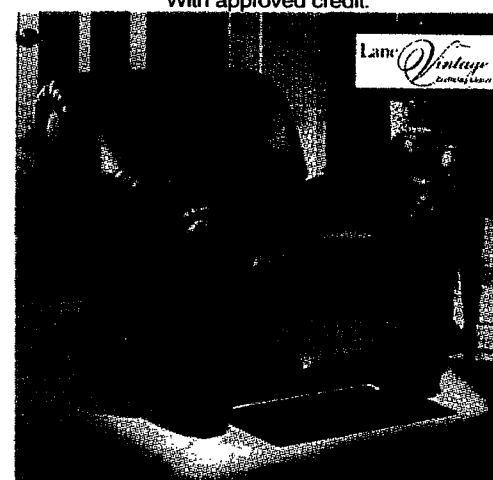
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